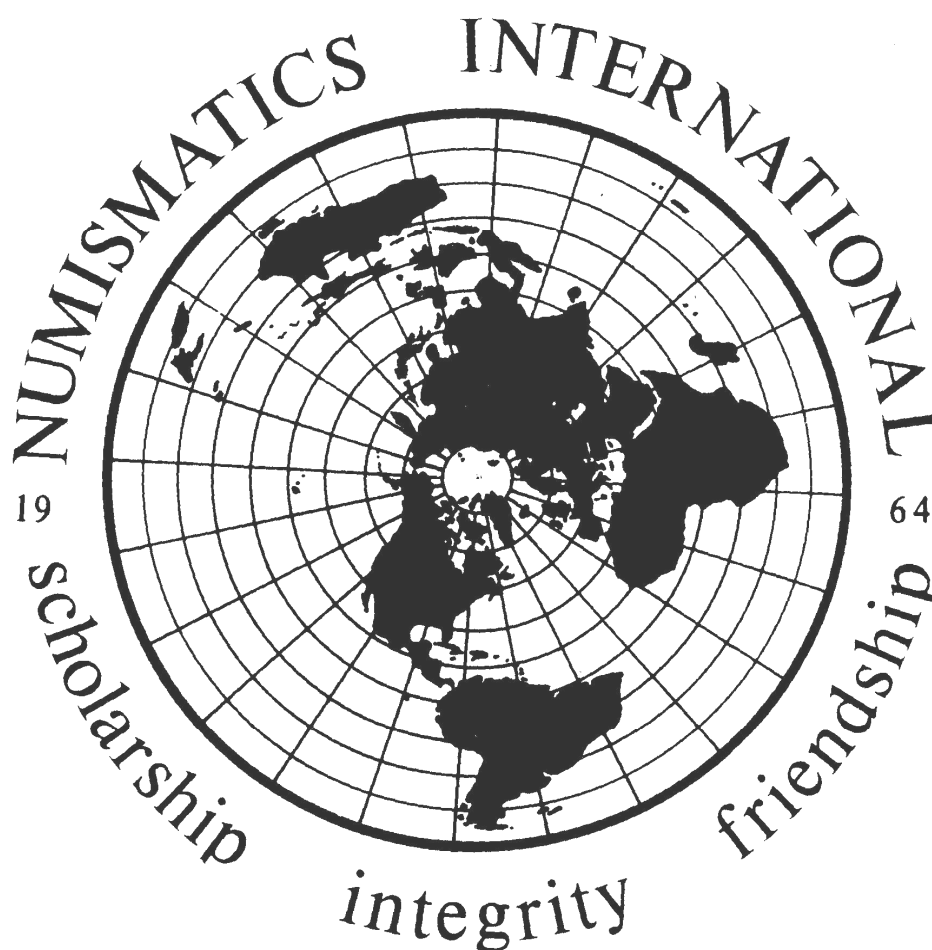


# NI Bulletin

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November / December 2010

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### **Editor, *NI Bulletin***

Herman Blanton

P.O. Box 247

Mount Vernon, OH 43050

e-mail: hblanton@yahoo.com

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Ross Schraeder

### **Membership Chairman**

Ross Schraeder

P.O. Box 646

Aubrey, TX 76227

e-mail: rossschraeder1@yahoo.com

### **Librarian, NI Library**

David Gracey

PO Box 570842

Dallas, TX 75357-0842

davidfg248@grandecom.net

### **Auction Manager, NI Mail Bid Sales**

Carl Young

P.O. Box 810521

Dallas, TX 75381-0521

Telephone: 972-247-0634

### **Moderator, NI Educational Programs**

Howard A. Daniel III

P.O. Box 989 Deltaville, VA 23043-0989

e-mail: HADaniel3@msn.com

### **Book Orders:** Elmore Scott: NIBooks@verizon.net

### **Numismatics International**

e-mail: rossschraeder1@yahoo.com

Website: <http://www.numis.org>

Discussion Group:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/numismatics/>

Correspondence should be directed to those persons and addresses above for departments indicated. All other correspondence should be mailed direct to NUMISMATICS INTERNATIONAL, P.O. BOX 570842, DALLAS, TX 75357-0842.

## Objectives of Numismatics International

Numismatics International is a non-profit educational organization. Its Objectives are: to encourage and promote the science of numismatics by specializing in areas and nations other than the United States of America; to cultivate fraternal relations among collectors and numismatic students; to encourage and assist new collectors; to foster the interest of youth in numismatics; to stimulate and advance affiliations among collectors and kindred organizations; and to acquire, share, and disseminate knowledge.

MEMBERSHIP FEES: Individual & Club Memberships, \$20.00 annually; Junior Membership (18 years of age and under), \$15.00 annually; Senior Membership (70 years of age and older), \$15.00 annually; Life Membership, \$300.00. Membership fees are payable by mail: NUMISMATICS INTERNATIONAL, P.O. BOX 570842, DALLAS, TX 75357-0842 or via PayPal at: NIBooks@Verizon.net.

# Numismatics International Bulletin

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This is the final edition for 2010 and closes another year of the NI Bulletin, its 45th. Forty-five years seems a long time, for a single lifetime it is but an organization can span multiple lifetimes. Very recently, in fact the night before writing these words, I attended my high school reunion marking 40 years since my class graduated in 1970. A high school reunion is an opportunity to catch up on what has happened since graduation but it is not a continuation of high school. We have moved on in our individual lives, which of course is how it should be as high school is not an end, it is a means (to further education and to becoming productive members of society). Numismatics International is not an end either, it is a means to communicate, learn and share knowledge about our common interest, i.e., numismatics.

This edition is a reunion of sorts. It is a history of NI as seen through the pages of the bulletin. I chose to publish it in the bulletin itself rather than as a stand alone document; that way the continuity of the bulletin is contained within its own pages. The history is the author's own observations and your editor touched on it very lightly. I hope you find it as interesting as I did.

Your board of governors and the editor wish you the best for the year-end holidays and a healthy and prosperous new year.

Herman Blanton



## Membership Report

The following person has applied for membership. Unless objections in writing are received by Feb 1, 2011 the membership is effective that day.

2419 Glen Shake, PO Box 560, Allen, TX 75013. Roman Numeral coins.

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## **Numismatics International as Seen Through the *NI Bulletin***

**Alan Luedeking, NI #2282**

Being a numismatic bibliophile, I am a member of the Numismatic Bibliomania Society who enjoys his *Asylum*, so it seemed appropriate for me to apply my passion for numismatic literature to my favorite club publication of them all: the *NI Bulletin*.

Numismatics International was not the first numismatic club I ever joined, but it will certainly be the last I ever give up, if fate or fortune compels me to. Reflecting back on my twenty-one years as member number 2282, I cannot think of any other numismatic organization that I have so much enjoyed being a member of.

A key element to the lasting success of both societies' journals has been, like that of McDonald's or Kentucky Fried Chicken, consistency. Never, since the Bulletin's first issue in its current format in January 1970, has the Bulletin varied in its dimensions. This is of supreme importance to a bibliophile. Regularity in size, besides making a complete set a joy to behold on the library shelf, also makes the uniform binding of such a set a joy for the bookbinder, should anybody be so inclined. Most importantly though, it attests to the constancy and consistency of the organization behind it.

So it was with enormous trepidation that I first saw President Howard Ford's survey on page 145 of the July, 2005 issue, hinting at possible momentous changes to come. He repeated the survey in the following month's issue as a tipped-in insert, and reported subsequently that it garnered 112 responses from the membership—a low turnout, given the fact that there were then about 450 members. A key question was whether to permit a change in publication from monthly to less frequently; a very great majority of respondents voted in the affirmative, with some even advocating publishing just bimonthly. As President Ford thankfully observed in his report of the results, "we won't be going that far" and the *NI Bulletin* eventually condensed to just eight issues a year, with two issues combining two months each, increasing the amount of content commensurately. Nevertheless, commencing with Volume 44 in the year 2009 the *NI Bulletin* did indeed become a bimonthly publication with just six double issues a year. However, of crucial importance, the numbering, size and general format were preserved, and my fears in this respect entirely laid to rest.

The writing of this article was inspired by my acquisition, after many years of hoping and searching, of the only "modern" *NI Bulletin* still missing from my set—the January 1972 issue. Perusing with satisfaction the at last complete run of the Bulletin, I was struck by the long history of NI; the more I studied the Bulletins the more fascinated I became with the emerging picture of the evolution of NI itself. I decided on the spot to attempt a little history of NI and proceeded to bombard current and former officers and some of the oldest members of NI with questions. Their informative replies and unstinting encouragement, particularly those of Messrs. Marvin Fraley and David Gracey motivated me to carry this article to fruition.

A detailed survey of the numismatic contents of the *NI Bulletin* would be pointless: one need only look at the indexes compiled over the years to have that. There are so many outstanding articles and gems of knowledge to be found throughout the 13,356 pages of the *NI Bulletin* that attempting to single out a few of them would necessarily



be highly subjective. So I decided, albeit with gritted teeth, to refrain except in the most important of cases. Instead, it is the history of NI itself as an organization and an overview of its literature to which I devoted myself. The result is by no means intended to be complete or definitive, especially since, as a regular NI member “at a distance” I have not been privy to board meetings nor any internal correspondence. Thus, this effort is perforce the product only of my gleanings from the Bulletin itself and those few (of many over the years) tipped-in inserts as have come into my possession, and of information received from those who volunteered it to me. Yet perhaps it may serve as inspiration for others who appreciate Numismatics International to come forward and fill in the holes. One notable lacuna in this article is mention of the major printed works that NI has sponsored, as I do not own many of them and NI’s “books for sale” lists over the years have occasionally been salted with outside works not always produced under the auspices of NI. Thus, rather than mislead the membership with a possibly flawed inclusion of those printed works, I have limited myself to just the club publications.

### **A Brief Survey of the History of NI as Gleaned from the Pages of the *NI Bulletin***

I shall begin by mentioning another observation of President Ford’s in his aforementioned report of October 2005: the direction of NI and the publication of its Bulletin are entirely the product of the unpaid labor of volunteers who do it for the enjoyment of our organization. This echoed the words of President Irving Berlin on the occasion of NI’s tenth anniversary in 1974, that NI’s output was “strictly a labor of love.” The gratitude of the entire membership is due them all. But I am getting ahead of myself.

Numismatics International began as an informal gathering of dedicated numismatists and collectors of “foreign” coins in Dallas, Texas. These gentlemen (and one lady) desired an alternative to the Dallas Coin Club which would be dedicated entirely to the numismatics of any country and era *except* the United States; they soon decided to regularize their gatherings and found a club. This they did on Wednesday the 15th of July, 1964, in the back room of Harrison D. Lawrence’s coin shop, “L & M Coins & Stamps” in Dallas, Texas.

By a majority vote, fourteen founding members present at this first meeting named their club *Numismatics International*. There would, however, be fifteen founding members. The special status of these fifteen persons as Founder Members was particularly spelled out in the second major amendment to the bylaws, passed in October of 1969. Therein it was stipulated that founding members were those who had met in the club’s first and second meetings, July 15th and August 19th, 1964. These founders would have unnumbered membership cards while all other members would have numbered cards, beginning with the number 101. NI’s first President was Founder Member Marvin L. Fraley, who, along with the first slate of elected officers served in that capacity throughout the remainder of 1964 and all of 1965.

The club’s original emblem (see **Figure 1**) featured six coins, carefully selected by a vote of the founders; the significance of each of these was explained by Founder Member and 6th president of NI, William E. Benson, in the *NI Bulletin* of March 20th, 1968. The first was the Maria Theresia Thaler because it had a story like no

other and was accepted as a trade coin throughout the Arab world for centuries. The Peruvian Sol with Guatemala 1/2 Real counterstamp of 1894 was the second choice: by “somewhat romantic inference” It symbolized the rather erratic history of Latin America and its coinage.

The third coin was a crown of Great Britain with the famous engraving by Benedetto Pistrucci of St. George slaying the dragon, selected to represent Europe. The fourth coin was the British Trade Dollar, “another ‘must’ for the letterhead.” This coin was issued for commerce throughout the Orient and found particular acceptance in China. (If you look very closely, you will see a Chinese chopmark on the left side of the coin.) The vastness of the British Empire throughout the world and its influence on international numismatics cannot be overstated, and this coin represents that nicely.

In a nod to our neighbors to the north, the Canadian totem pole dollar of 1958 was the fifth coin chosen. The sixth coin, non-circular in shape and “from the land of the rising sun” (Japan), represented the exotic Orient.

The first editor of the club’s newsletter was the estimable Marvin L. Fraley, a Founding Member and also NI’s first president. In the beginning, the NI newsletters were not named; they served only to document each meeting’s goings-on and additions/changes to the membership. But they were always carefully dated and numbered by meeting number. These newsletters were invariably just a single sheet, mimeographed on letter-size paper. They were mailed folded once, almost always together with additional inserts sporting sundry notices and the occasional member list, and lists of coins and books for sale. These early newsletters are all extremely rare today. Neither the NI Library nor NI Archives possess a complete original set.

The *NI Bulletin* was born out of this monthly club meeting newsletter. The first informal reference to it by this name occurs with the inaugural issue of February 15th, 1967 for the Thirty-Second club meeting, wherein it is announced that future issues of “the bulletin” would contain feature articles to bring the non-local membership closer to the core membership in the “Big D” (Dallas). This was also the



Figure 1

first multi-page issue, the true beginning of the *NI Bulletin*. From this issue forward the number of pages and the diversity of its content gradually increased. At first the Bulletin generally had just six or eight pages, printed on both sides of three or four sheets, growing to an average of fourteen to sixteen pages by mid-1968. The first true feature article can be said to occur in the April 1967 issue, with a submission by twelve-year old Victor Levie of Amsterdam, on his collection.

Mr. Fraley remained responsible for the monthly creation of the *NI Bulletin* for 40 years (!), since its inception until his retirement due to ill health in mid-2004. The first issue of the NI club newsletter known to me (from NI's archives) is for the Twenty-Fourth meeting, dated June 15th, 1966. The style and content of this example leads me to believe that earlier issues must have existed, but this is pure speculation—none of NI's "old timers" have been able to confirm this.

In the newsletters for 1966 we learn that Founder Member Jack E. Lewis had been elected NI's second president. In the early years, the most prolific contributor and correspondent was one of NI's first foreign members, Matthew J. van der Voort of the Netherlands. This gentleman did much to raise NI's profile in Europe, even recruiting as members interested numismatists from behind the iron curtain. He was awarded NI's First Honorary Life Membership at the June 1967 (Thirty-Sixth) meeting in Dallas, where Mr. van der Voort gave a numismatic presentation. From the beginning, NI strongly encouraged junior memberships and quite a number of youthful members were signed up. A poignant reminder of this occurs in the June 1967 issue with an obituary for the first NI member to die, Ricky Rudine, of congenital heart failure at age 13. He had been NI's youngest full member and active participant.

Important changes to the bylaws were proposed in February 1967, during the administration of NI's third president, John E. Vandigriff. These were passed in March of that year. Applications for membership would no longer require the sponsorship of a Founder Member and annual dues were set at \$2. Founder Members, however, were required to pay \$5 for the first year (1964) and \$2 per year thereafter like all other regular members. Dues would no longer be payable in foreign currency at face value (!) and a provision allowing any member to object to the admission of a proposed new member was added. To my certain knowledge, members have only rarely availed themselves of this exclusion privilege yet if an applicant for membership has ever been denied membership due to the objection of an existing member no notice of such has ever appeared in the Bulletin. I believe that the membership report in the Bulletin should disclose any applicants denied membership and members expelled for any violation of the bylaws, as does ANA's *The Numismatist*.

Membership expanded rapidly thereafter, hitting 100 in December of 1967 although of these only 89 were active. By March of 1968, nearly four years after its founding, two of the original fifteen Founder Members were no longer active. By May of 1968 NI had 113 active members.

First mention of NI's library occurs at the beginning of NI's fifth year, in the July 1968 Bulletin. It is described as "very small" and supported entirely by donations. In

this issue mention is made that only ten of the fifteen Founder Members were still active, which meant that another three founders had dropped out in just four months. This issue is significant also in that it contains the first appearance of what would become a valuable regular feature over the years: the book review. This first review was by Jerome H. Remick, who was to become NI's most prolific book reviewer over the coming decades. This July 1968 issue of the *NI Bulletin* also announced the completion of the first report of NI's Committee to Research World Coinage Types and Varieties, limited to 200 copies. This report represented the culmination of one of NI's first projects on a grand scale.

In August 1968, NI inaugurated its Coin Attribution Service, and in September the formation of an entity called the Emergency Money Society (EMS) was announced, a numismatic club that would become, nearly six years later, the first independent numismatic organization to be merged into NI, in April of 1974.

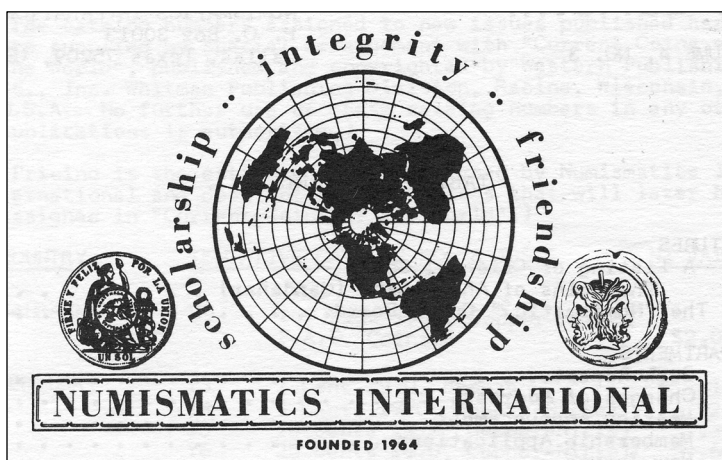
News appeared in the February 1969 issue that NI's immediate past president (the fourth), Bob Tomlinson, had, during the January meeting, awarded Marvin Fraley NI's Second Honorary Life Membership for past services to the society. An Honorary Life Membership, indicated after the member's name by the initials HLM, is the highest distinction and honor that Numismatics International can bestow. Only eleven such have been awarded in the entire 44-year history of the organization.

That month (February 1969) also carried the sad announcement of member Bud Butterworth's loss to burglars of a stupendous Oriental collection, featuring over 10,000 charms. A few of these were actually illustrated in a high quality photographic plate, the first such "extra" ever included with the Bulletin.

The March 1969 issue brought more sad news of the second NI member to die, Kenneth Lee, in a skydiving accident. He left behind four children. In May of that year Patrick D. Hogan was appointed Assistant Editor of the Bulletin, to assist with a new capability of reproducing drawings and photographs by "high speed Xerox." It was hoped that future feature articles would now be richer in such illustrations. Finally, in June 1969, the NI Library was officially formed, nearly a year after it was first mentioned in July 1968. Bob Tomlinson volunteered to be NI's first Librarian and in August 1969 NI's first Library List is published in the Bulletin. This 15-page issue also announced the opening of a contest to design a new emblem for NI, as first proposed the previous month.

During the annual dinner meeting in December 1969, Marvin Fraley was called upon to present NI's Third Honorary Life Membership to a surprised Founder Member Jack E. Lewis, in recognition of his five and a half years of tireless and unceasing work on behalf of the organization since its founding. Bob Tomlinson also presented outgoing 5th president Edward E. Slade with his silver "Past President" medal. This is the only reference to such medal that I have ever come across; I have never seen one, and this medal has never been illustrated in the Bulletin.

The results of the NI emblem contest were not fully implemented until the first printed (not mimeographed) Bulletin issue of January 21st, 1970. This new format edition of the *NI Bulletin* (the first of the "modern" format Bulletins), dated January



**Figure 2**

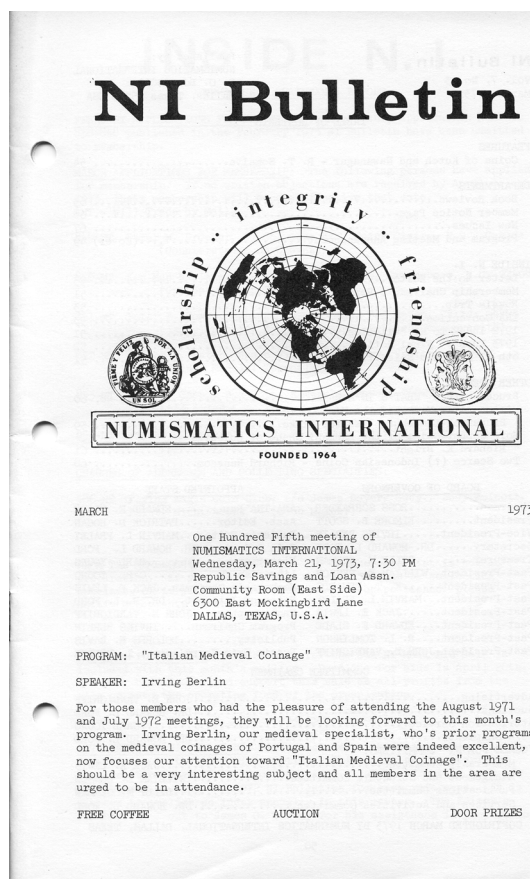
coin showing Janus was added to the right, at 4 o'clock. As Marvin Fraley explained in the December 1969 issue (the final example of the original letter-sized mimeographed Bulletin), the new format Bulletin would permit greater content in the same amount of space and "electro-stat stencils from paste-ups" would allow the reproduction of photographs with little loss of detail, clearer drawings, etc. This January 1970 edition of the Bulletin is the first truly collectible issue of the Bulletin, since, as mentioned earlier, all the foregoing mimeographed issues are today extremely rare.

The January 1970 issue continued the tradition of documenting the official NI club meeting by number, this being the Sixty-Seventh. However, this first example of the new format printed Bulletin did *not* have a Volume or Issue number. This was only added with the second modern format issue, in February 1970. **Figure 3** illustrates the final example of this first cover variety of the printed *NI Bulletin*, the March 1973 issue.

William E. Benson was elected NI's 6th president for the year 1970 and club dues were increased to \$3 for the year. The second issue of the new Bulletin format, dated February 1970, introduced for the first time a table of contents and a formal numbering scheme for the Bulletin, commencing with Volume 4, No 2. This clearly reflects the fact that the birth of the *NI Bulletin* is deemed as having occurred with the February 1967 mimeographed issue. The single-page newsletters prior to that issue are exceedingly rare but are not counted as being true *NI Bulletins*. As previously mentioned, I have not seen any newsletter earlier than that for the Twenty-Fourth meeting of NI, dated June 1966. No mention is made in this single-page issue of its being the first one; nevertheless, if it is in fact the first, then the first two years of NI's meetings went entirely unrecorded, which I cannot believe was the case.

The formal elections for the new slate of officers only gradually settled on the November meeting each year, with the new administration's installation taking place at the December social meeting in Dallas, although the newly installed officers really only formally took office in the new year. NI's seventh president, for the year 1971, was Kary T. (Ed) Edwards. In 1972 Ross Schraeder became NI's 8th president, serving his first term as such. He would later be reelected to a second term as NI's 11th president. Thereafter, starting in 1985, Mr. Schraeder served as Secretary of NI

1970, featured very prominently NI's new official emblem, or logo (see **Figure 2**.) This new logo would henceforth grace every issue as well as the membership card. It retained only one of the six coins from the original logo (the Peruvian Sol with Guatemalan countermark), now placed to the left of the polar map of the world, at 8 o'clock; an ancient



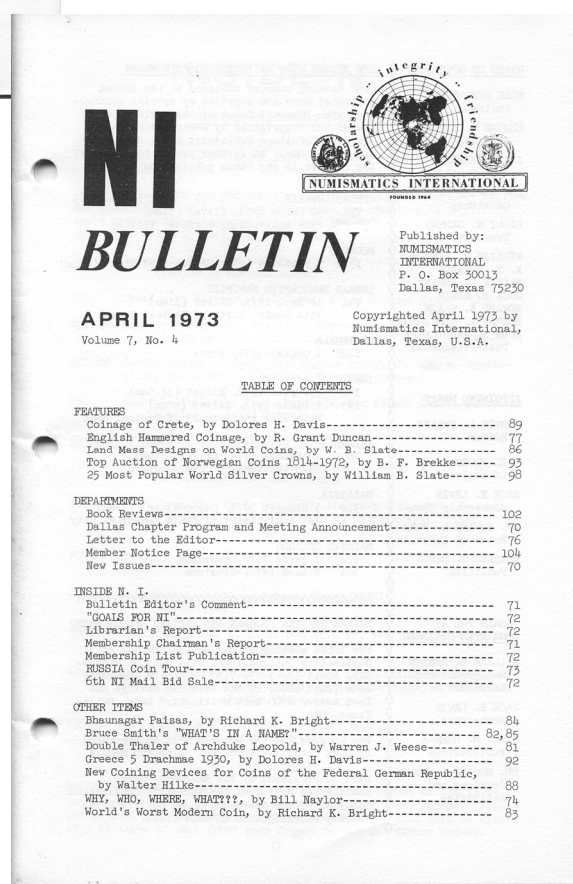
**Figure 3**

with the table of contents now moved to the front cover.

On May 31st, 1973, NI sent a delegation of members on a history-making three-week numismatic tour of the USSR. This cultural exchange can be considered a milestone in US-Russian relations during the cold war. The Americans were very well received by the Russians, being given a private tour of the numismatic collections at the Hermitage, among other collections. The tour members in turn gifted their Russian hosts with silver medals struck especially for the event by the Franklin Mint. The September 1973 issue of the *NI Bulletin* recounts how a single example struck in gold by a special exemption from the US government was jointly presented on June 21st, 1973 by NI and Citizen Exchange Corps to Chairman Brezhnev of the USSR. It was then valued at US\$100,000.

for 21 years before retiring to travel the world with his new wife. He is currently NI's Archivist, a position split off from that of Secretary in early 2006. In addition, he also serves today as NI's Membership Chairman.

In 1973, Elmore B. Scott became NI's 9th president, and 35 years later he is still in charge of NI's book sales, one of NI's pioneering and truly indefatigable volunteers. Individual annual dues for the general membership were increased to \$4 and in April 1973 the second printed cover design was introduced (see **Figure 4**.) This maintained the new dimensions established in 1970 which (thankfully!) have never varied since. In it, the NI emblem is reduced in size and the entire layout is more stylized,



**Figure 4**

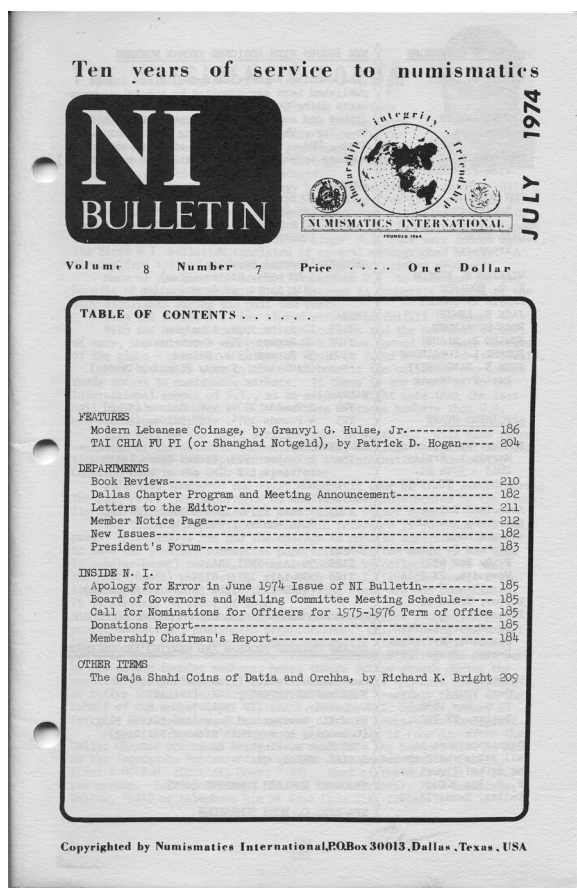
In August of 1973, the entire library of member Walter Bezner was donated to NI, and Marvin Fraley donated another seventy books. Even more momentous in August's issue was the news that NI had become a federally tax-exempt organization back in June. I learned from personal correspondence with Founder Member John E. Vandigriff that NI had originally been incorporated as a non-profit educational organization in 1966, recognized as such by the IRS and the State of Texas, with all the legal work to make this happen having been done by Mr. Vandigriff. Why this was being highlighted only now, in August of 1973, is a mystery. Regardless, NI was clearly coming of age as a nationally recognized numismatic organization, an entity truly here to stay.

In November of 1973, the third major amendment to the bylaws of NI was passed, primarily to comply with the requirements imposed by the granting of federal tax-exempt status. A key consequence of this was that NI now formally launched its Reference Coin Collection, appointing Marvin Fraley its first curator. So, in addition to being Editor of the Bulletin Mr. Fraley was now Curator of its Reference Coin Collection as well. A harder-working volunteer can scarcely be imagined. Another key change in the bylaws would be that starting with the elections of 1974, the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer would, beginning in 1975, serve a term of two years (rather than just one) and be elected by a ballot of the entire membership instead of by a vote of just those members meeting in Dallas. The outgoing president would automatically become Chairman of the Board of Governors, the ultimate authority in the administrative affairs of the organization. Another significant change was the introduction of paid Life Memberships at a fee of \$150, but to take effect only upon the 10th anniversary of NI on July 15th, 1974.

Shortly before this date, in March of 1974, the Fourth Honorary Life Membership was awarded by a vote of the Board of Governors to Founder Member and past president John E. Vandigriff. Regular dues were now increased to \$5 per year for 1974. The last one-year president of NI, for the year 1974, was its tenth: Irving Berlin. His tenure is characterized by a monthly "President's Forum" in the Bulletin, always interesting. Unfortunately, subsequent presidents (with a few notable exceptions) have not been as forthcoming with monthly commentary on the organization's affairs.

In April 1974, the Emergency Money Society (EMS) merged with NI, bringing Dick Upton on board as an Associate Editor under Marvin Fraley. EMS's *Journal of the Emergency Money Society* (JEMS) would cease to exist and Mr. Upton would roll the articles to do with that topic into the *NI Bulletin*. The next two years, naturally, saw a significant increase in emergency money feature articles in the Bulletin.

In July 1974, in honor of NI's tenth anniversary, the third iteration of the cover design of the *NI Bulletin* was introduced. This is characterized by the introduction of a color cover and a "black patch" logo with the NI initials, a design that was to last for the next 30-1/2 years, ending with the December 2004 issue. See **Figure 5** for the first example of this longstanding cover design. The color of the cover of the Bulletin was changed each year thereafter, making individual year sets easy to distinguish on the bookshelf, and the very top of the cover featured the phrase "ten years of service



**Figure 5**

87 were lost from the year before, a retention rate of 84.8%; this was characterized by the membership chairman as the best in the history of NI up to that point. Data such as this was never published in the Bulletin again. By May 1, 1975, the active membership stood at 554, with the latest application standing at number 1132.

In 1976, dues rose to \$7 per year, and in May 1976 Granvyl G. Hulse was appointed Librarian. Under his administration the library would grow exponentially, and upon his retirement 28 years later he was named Librarian Emeritus of NI. Also in May 1976 came news that Dick Upton, the Associate Editor of the Bulletin who'd been "inherited" from the Emergency Money Society had resigned. He had earlier also resigned his post as NI's Vice President due to outside work pressures. This now left Marvin Fraley once again as sole editor of the Bulletin. Despite this, the very next month, Mr. Fraley produced the most voluminous issue of the Bulletin up to that time with 48 pages, featuring Granvyl G. Hulse's monumental article *The Coinage of Modern Ethiopia*. I had promised in the introduction to this article to abstain from mentioning feature content except in the most important of cases. This was one such. With this feature article the *NI Bulletin* cemented its position as the preeminent journal for international numismatic scholarship in the United States. In February of 1977 Mr. Hulse was awarded the 1976 Author of the Year award for that effort. Prior to this many other fine articles, principally on Oriental, Islamic and Indian numismatics had been published.

to numismatics." The number of years in this phrase was eventually increased by one with each year's July issue, which tradition continued until January 2005, when it was abandoned. I say eventually since it must be noted that in the early years this phrase was not updated as it should have been; for instance, throughout all of 1975 it remained at "ten years" when, as of July, it should have been "eleven years." And in 1976 it was rectified to "twelve years" but too early, starting in January. It was not until 1978 that the tradition of correctly numbering the years of service to numismatics finally settled into its proper pattern, lasting for the next 27 years.

In January 1975, Ross Schraeder took the helm for the second time, this time serving a two-year term, as NI's eleventh president. In the May 1975 issue it is stated that of 572 members up for renewal on January 1, 1975 (including those absorbed from EMS),



The June 1976 issue brought news that NI had been approached by the Organization of International Numismatists (OIN) for a merger and a combining of the two entities' journals. NI's president, Ross Schraeder, felt it necessary to write a rare (for him) Message from the President to dispel the rumors concerning any such merger; these had been floated in the May 11, 1976 issue of *World Coin News*. Said merger was *not* approved, although NI and OIN would indeed eventually merge, but this occurrence still lay five years in the future.

Starting in 1977, Carl Young assumed day-to-day command as twelfth president of NI. He was then also NI's Auction Manager, a post he holds to this day! The February 1977 issue brought news of the appointment of David F. Moran as Permanent Curator of NI's reference coin collection, taking over from Marvin Fraley who had been acting as curator since the collection's inception. By July of 1977 NI's reference collection already contained 6,000 coins and 7,000 pieces of paper money, most of the latter having been willed to NI by member John K. Graves, who had also, while still living, already donated to NI a substantial portion of his library. After his death, NI's paper money collection was formally designated the John Graves Memorial Paper Money Collection. It was not until January 1981 however, that formal mention is made of the Graves collection on the inside cover of the Bulletin, with the appointment of David H. Block as its curator.

April 1977 saw the obituary of First Honorary Life Member Matthew J. van der Voort. He had died in February. He was indisputably one of the early giants of NI and his Honorary Life Membership was well deserved, as he had contributed many articles to the Bulletin in its mimeographed days, and really put NI on the map in Europe. The number of presentations he gave in Dallas is a measure of his commitment, considering that he had to travel from the Netherlands to get there.

By year end 1977 NI had fifteen paid Life Members. The bylaws of NI were now amended for the fourth time on December 1, 1977. Regrettably, no summary of the changes was ever recorded in the Bulletin, but reprints were made available to the membership upon request fully 14 months later, in January 1979. Unfortunately, I do not have a copy of this edition of the bylaws in my library. I will mention at this point that one grave difficulty in studying NI documents is that they are rarely dated.

In July 1978 the Board of Governors instituted a "Patron of the Library" award. Its first recipient was Randolph Zander, in recognition of his generous donations and continuous unstinting support of the library over the years. Librarian Granvyl Hulse stated that by the end of 1978 the 1976 Library List was obsolete and he vehemently opposed the Board's occasional nagging that he type up a new one: the rate of donations was such that he knew it would be obsolete by the time he finished. The truth of Grany's statement is plainly evident when one observes the ever-increasing monthly donation reports during that two-year interval. By December 31, 1978 the NI Library had well over 1,000 volumes requiring 176 feet of shelf space, not counting the thousands of catalogues, magazines and newspapers also in residence. Not a bad state of affairs for a club library relying almost exclusively on donations in only nine years time since it was begun in earnest.

In October 1978 annual dues rose by a whopping 40% to \$10 per year. Elections for a new slate of officers for the 1979-80 term were in the offing and in January 1979 Charles Muchmore, Jr. became NI's 13th President. Mysteriously, the appointed officers now showed a vacancy for the position of Curator of the Reference Coin Collection, but no hint whatsoever appears in the *Bulletin* as to why David Moran was no longer the curator. This vacancy continued for seven months; nevertheless, the published monthly updates to the reference collection continued uninterrupted. I can only assume that the indefatigable Marvin Fraley again picked up the reins as curator during this interval. Suddenly, in August 1979, Philip L. Lawrence appears as the curator, but again the *Bulletin* is entirely silent about his appointment. Nevertheless, thirty years later Philip Lawrence still remains curator of NI's reference collections—clearly this time the Board had made the right choice!

The February 1979 issue brought news of NI's first coin show, planned for November in Dallas, to be called the Numismatics International Coin Exposition (NICE). By May almost half of the 60 tables for the show had already been sold. In July 1979 the board bestowed upon Robert L. Clarke NI's second "Patron of the Library" award. He had donated 561 items during 1978, some rare and valuable. (Mr. Clarke died on March 1st, 1982. His obituary appears in the May 1982 issue of the *Bulletin*.) The October 1979 issue of the *Bulletin* came in at a record-setting 72 pages and brought the happy news that the *NI Bulletin* had won the Numismatic Literary Guild's 1st place award in the Club Publications category. (Contrast that with the latest issue as of this writing, a *double* issue for July/August 2010, with only 38 pages.)

April 1980 marked another milestone in the maturation of NI and its *Bulletin*. The U.S. Library of Congress assigned the *NI Bulletin* an International Standard Serial Number (ISSN). This number would serve to facilitate inter-library loans with other libraries world-wide and recognized NI and its library as a serious research institution. NI's ISSN 0197-3088 was proudly added to the cover, but only through the August 1980 issue. Thereafter it seems to have been forgotten until the March 1981 issue, when it reappeared, but it was not until the September 1982 issue that NI's ISSN finally became a permanent printed element on the cover, through the last issue of 2004.

Also in April 1980, mention is made of preparations for the upcoming second NICE convention in Dallas. Since the first NICE the previous November had been a resounding success it was now being expanded to 80 tables and a convention auction chairman was appointed in an effort to draw a major auction to the show. By September three-fourths of the available tables had been sold. A 1-1/2 inch medal in antiqued bronze commemorating this convention was subsequently minted and was still for sale to the membership at \$3 in the September 1988 Member Publication List.

The April 1980 issue also made mention of the imminent publication of the 1970-1979 10-year index compiled by Sydney W. Beaney and Dolores H. Davis. (Ms. Davis, incidentally, was the author of the first numismatic book printed under the auspices of NI, *Czechoslovak Coins*, in 1972.) This index was issued the following month together with the May 1980 issue. This was the first of three such multi-year indexes compiled by NI, the next being an eleven-year index for 1980-1990 which I believe is scarce today. The third was for the ten year period from 1991-2000.

In May 1980, the NI Board of Governors launched an invitation to the membership for a new “symbolic design for NI to use on medallic awards, ribbons, etc.” with a deadline of September 1, 1980. The December issue gave thanks for all the submissions received, and stated that since a NICE 1980 medal would be struck the “selection of an NI logo” would be temporarily postponed. Apparently it was permanently postponed since no further mention of this was ever made and NI’s logo did not change for another 24 years.

In July 1980, Randolph Zander was awarded NI’s Fifth Honorary Life Membership, in honor of the library’s nomination to award him a second “Patron of the Library” award. On page 196 of this issue, strangely, it is asserted that Mr. Zander’s was only the fourth Honorary Life Membership awarded. Apparently, the first one awarded to Mr. Matthew J. van der Voort of the Netherlands in 1967 had by this time been forgotten, although as late as February 1974 Mr. van der Voort was still acknowledged as such.

Mr. Zander’s contributions to the library had by now exceeded one thousand items (!) and Granvyl Hulse described the library as occupying 250 feet of shelf space. To avoid spending NI’s funds in tearing out walls and adding more shelving at his home, he throws out an urgent appeal to the membership for additional housing space for the library, proposing to split off a part of the library’s holdings into two sub-libraries consisting of catalogues and price lists in one and magazines and newspapers in the second. The new space required was described as amounting to a “small bedroom.” In September 1980 the appeal was repeated since the response from the membership had been underwhelming. Finally, in December it was reported that member Donald Mead of Wichita, Kansas had volunteered to take over responsibility for the catalogues and price lists and his appointment had been approved by the Board of Governors.

The periodicals were ultimately not split off and remained with Granvyl Hulse in the main library at Colebrook, New Hampshire. Nearly two years later, in June 1982, Granvyl Hulse repeated his plea that the periodicals be split off into a third library, the better to index its contents, and his request to do so was formally approved by the Board of Governors. Over a year later, in July 1983 Mr. Hulse stated formally that NI did not publish a library index. Instead, members were invited to write and simply ask for whatever they wanted, and if no specific title was desired, to simply request material on the topic of interest. The librarian would then furnish titles for the member to select from. Judging from the monthly listings of the impressive works donated and otherwise added to the library each month, the NI library was by now truly a major resource for numismatic research. In the United States, perhaps only the world numismatic literature holdings of the library of the American Numismatic Society and Library of Congress exceeded that of NI’s library at this point.

The October 1980 issue of the Bulletin saw the first major error on a Bulletin cover, it being mislabeled November, although the issue number was correct at Volume 14 No. 10. Apparently not everyone noticed this since one member sent back his “November” issue no less than four times (!), complaining each time that he needed the *October* issue (darn it!) that he had never gotten. The situation was at last

resolved when the mislabeling problem was verbally explained to him. But this little error would have lasting consequences in that many members must have inadvertently discarded their “duplicate” issues since even as late as 2008 there was a plea in NI’s Yahoo Groups online forum for a missing October 1980 issue. Without a doubt the mislabeled October issue (and probably the correctly labeled November issue also) are today scarcer than the remaining issues of 1980.

January 1981 reported on the installation of the new slate of officers elected for the 1981-82 term. Founder Member Jack E. Lewis now became NI’s president for the second time, the fourteenth. This issue also brought news that once again the Organization of International Numismatists (OIN) had approached NI for a merger. This time, after much discussion within the Board of Governors, NI agreed, and a formal “Memorandum of Agreement” was presented to the Board, as negotiated by Jack E. Lewis and Don Douglas for NI and Byron Johnson and William F. Spengler for OIN. In essence, NI would absorb OIN, with the *NI Bulletin* taking over OIN’s *Journal of International Numismatics* (*JOIN*). One immediate consequence of this was that Fred Drost, Editor of *JOIN* would now become Article Editor for the *NI Bulletin*, thereby taking a significant load off Editor Marvin Fraley’s shoulders. It should be noted that complete runs of OIN’s *Journal of International Numismatics* are very rare today.

February 1981 saw the appearance of donations to NI’s newly established Building Fund, with an eye toward a future permanent headquarters building, to also house its library and reference collections, but it was not until the March issue that the Chairman of the Board of Governors announced the establishment of this fund. The main contributors to this fund were the officers of NI themselves, by definition always the most dedicated and generous members and volunteers.

The May 1981 issue saw the Bulletin’s first (mostly) numismatic crossword puzzle, an import from the OIN Journal where it had been a popular feature. In August 1981 a letter to the editor from George H. Becht is published, in which he rues the discontinuance of the numismatic crossword puzzle in the *NI Bulletin*. He had contributed several of them to *JOIN*, the OIN Journal. He pointed out that they were topical, educational and fun. I must say I agree, and so apparently, did the membership, since another crossword made its appearance in the December issue, and a few more appeared sporadically thereafter. The final reference to these interesting crosswords occurs nearly ten years later, in the January 1992 obituary for Mr. Becht. Thereafter no more numismatic crosswords were seen in the Bulletin for 13 years until suddenly another one by a different author (unknown) made its appearance in 2005.

In September 1981, Charles K. Panish, another member absorbed from OIN agreed to take over NI’s Coin Attribution Service, which was described in this issue as a “little used fringe benefit” of membership in NI. A little over a year later, in October 1982, it was reported that since the establishment of the attribution service in September of 1981, 96 requests from 58 members had resulted in an astonishing 526 out of 541 items successfully attributed, for a success rate of 97.2%. This amazing success rate can only be attributed to the great erudition of Mr. Panish himself. Interestingly however, forgotten seemed to be the fact that NI’s Coin Attribution Service had

actually been established thirteen years earlier, in August of 1968. No doubt it had withered and died on the vine in the interim.

In October 1981, NI's 22nd Mail Bid Sale was set to close October 21, 1981. This sale was significant in that it was NI's first plated sale. NI's Mail Bid Sales have always been issued twice a year, starting in 1971. They are consecutively numbered and generally close in March or April and September or October every year. They feature a wide array of moderately priced coins and some paper money, and have often featured large amounts of interesting numismatic literature, from single books to entire runs of auction catalogues. See list section at the end of this article for more data on NI's Mail Bid Sales.

The September 1982 issue was unusual in the number and length of letters to the editor that were published, with subjects as diverse as dissatisfaction with the response to a post in the Member Notice Page to the murder of Napoleon on St. Helena. In October 1982 it was announced that National Collectors Laboratories had granted NI permission to reproduce selected Counterfeit Analysis Reports for distribution with the Bulletin free of charge to members. This explained the surprise inclusion of NCL World Report #2 two months earlier with the August 1982 issue. Many of these high quality photographic reports were subsequently sporadically sent out with the Bulletin for many months thereafter, eventually petering out several years later. Complete sets of these reports are highly prized today.

The elections for the 1983-84 slate of officers garnered just 218 out of a possible 826 ballots. This was (in my opinion) a shockingly low turnout for elections, and evidences a general disconnect of the membership from the affairs of the organization, and a lack of familiarity with the candidates for office. Philip L. Lawrence, Curator of NI's Reference Coin Collection, now became NI's 15th president.

In May 1983 the Bulletin announced the establishment of the "Best Article of the Year" award. The first of these prestigious awards (by vote of the membership) was awarded to Carling F. Gresham for his fabulous study of the life and numismatic works of José Toribio Medina, which appears in the November 1983 issue. This article is one of the true pearls of numismatic research to be found in the *NI Bulletin*.

In January 1984 it was reported that Granvyl G. Hulse, Jr., Book Librarian of NI, had been awarded an Honorary Life Membership for all of his hard work and dedication over the years. This was only the sixth time that NI had so honored one of its members and volunteers. In this same issue Grany pleads for the third time for a volunteer to take over the library's now massive holdings of magazines and newspapers, with the intent of facilitating the indexing of their principal contents as to topics. This indexing was urgently needed in order to assist the NI librarians in better serving the membership with more material suited to their research requests. In this issue, Donald Mead, the Catalogue Librarian, presents his first summation of the library's catalogue holdings, amounting to thousands of catalogues representing hundreds of companies.

In March 1984 it was reported that Sydney W. Beaney, index compiler of the *NI Bulletin* since 1976, had died suddenly of cardiac arrest on December 28th, 1983, the *very day* that he had mailed the finished index for 1983 to Marvin Fraley. His position was only filled in June 1984 when longtime member Dick Schubert, of Denver, Colorado, stepped up to the plate. In addition, another position also left suddenly vacant by Sydney Beaney's untimely death was filled by Joseph Uphoff: that of Article Abstractor for the contents of NI's Bulletin, for the American Numismatic Society's publication *Numismatic Literature*.

In May 1984, the NI Board of Governors approved a new staff position entitled "Book News and Reviews Editor" to take some of the load off of Marvin Fraley's and Fred Drost's shoulders. It was also felt that in the event of illness of one or the other, this would ensure a seamless continuation of the *NI Bulletin*. George Dunn of Scarborough, Ontario, Canada was appointed to fill this position. In June 1984, Fred Drost, NI's Article Editor was awarded NI's Seventh Honorary Life Membership.

In July 1984, Librarian Granvyl Hulse reports, with considerable relief, that at long last the call for a volunteer to fill the post of Periodical Librarian and indexer had finally been filled, with member James D. Haley of Bethlehem, New Hampshire volunteering for this massive task. He would be donating a spare bedroom and a lot of time to the cause.

In September of 1984, an article on the Emperor Commodus and his coinage by member Lee Grossman was published. The final paragraph of this article contained a statement that elicited a subsequent letter to the editor by member Thomas D. Walker that Mr. Fraley published in the January 1985 issue. This letter occasioned what must have been a firestorm of controversy, a veritable furor, since it in turn resulted in a most unusual and rare apology from Editor Fraley for a "lapse in editorial responsibility," and for having committed, as he himself put it in the March 1985 issue, "probably the dumbest decision in my twenty some years as editor of this publication." I guess it is only human nature (or mine at least!) that besides enjoying the excellent numismatic scholarship to be found in the *NI Bulletin*, it is little items like these that make the Bulletin even more fun to read.

In October 1984 the volume number of the Bulletin was printed in error as 19 (it should have been 18.) This error was not caught until the February 1985 issue since it continued all the way through the January 1985 issue, which was erroneously numbered Volume 20. The February 1985 issue finally corrects the error and resumes the proper volume number sequence at number 19. Speaking of significant errors, my copy of the August 1985 issue presents blank inside covers, thereby omitting the slate of officers on the inside of the front cover and possible content on the inside back cover, the only such omission in the entire run of the Bulletin that I am aware of. I do not know if this is true for that issue's entire print run, or for just a part of it, or maybe even just my copy.

The January 1985 issue presented the vote tallies for the new slate of officers for the 1985-1986 term. William B. Thompson became NI's 16th president by an overwhelming majority of votes and C. C. Andrews became Vice President. The October 1985 issue brought news of the resignation of Book News and Reviews

Editor George Dunn, and far more shocking, the news that Marvin Fraley intended to resign the editorship of the Bulletin in late 1985 due to a business workload of 60 hours per week. Editing the Bulletin required an additional 40 hours per month, and this left little time for personal pursuits outside of NI. This news had actually been imparted to the membership in an insert in the May 1985 issue, resulting in two volunteers for the job, one of whom quickly changed his mind and another who had to withdraw his name from consideration for other reasons. Fortunately, the threatened resignation of Mr. Fraley would not occur for another twenty years! Truly, one must tip one's hat to Mr. Fraley for the stupendous labor of love he performed for so long, under such time duress.

The October 1985 issue is also notable for featuring the first of what would prove to be a long series of richly illustrated articles over the next eight years by David H. Block entitled "Napoleonic Medals." In December the Bulletin reported the donation of the entire numismatic library of member Don Kleckner, consisting of 482 volumes, of which 107 were new to the library. Mr. Kleckner had died in November.

The inside cover of the January 1986 issue saw a whopping 50% increase in the individual dues from \$10 to \$15 per annum, yet nowhere in the Bulletin was the resolution of the Board of Governors approving this increase printed; "it just ... happened." This new figure represented the sixth time that the annual dues had been increased since the club's inception 22 years before. A similarly sudden and unheralded increase would occur again sixteen years later in July of 2002. In March 1986 Librarian Hulse reported that the library now had 2,180 *different* titles, and August brought news that the late John Hunter had willed his entire library to NI as well, adding another 392 titles to the library of which 96 were new. Mr. Hunter had been NI's first paid life member, LM #1. By December of 1986 Mr. Hulse proudly reported that he was busy entering nearly 3,000 titles into the new computer just given him by the NI Board of Governors.

In January 1987 C. C. Andrews succeeded William B. Thompson as 17th president, for the 1987-1988 term, again by an overwhelming majority of votes. The tradition of the vice presidency being a stepping stone (apprenticeship?!) to the presidency of NI is a long one. In October 1987 Charles K. Panish was awarded NI's Eighth Honorary Life Membership, in recognition for his years of devotion to NI as its Attribution Service Committee chairman. Judging by the numerous letters to the editor received over the years since his appointment in 1981, this highest honor was richly deserved. In these letters and the occasional notices concerning the attribution service's activities, the success rate in attributing the hundreds of coins and tokens sent in by the membership was still amazingly high—well over 90%.

January 1988 brought a lengthy announcement from Librarian Granvyl Hulse that the huge project of indexing the entire book library had been completed but that no complete book list would be printed since it would "run to hundreds of pages." Alone the subject index ran to 25 pages! Mr. Hulse did, however, offer any member the possible future opportunity to purchase, "for a very modest sum," a floppy disk containing the complete list of all the books and articles available. But he cautioned that he was still figuring out "with the computer geniuses" how to do that, and that it would be for an "IBM compatible" computer. (In those days a floppy disk could hold

a maximum of 1.44 Megabytes of uncompressed data, or about 720 pages of plain text, if memory serves [pun intended].)

January 1989 saw the installation of the new slate of officers for 1989-1990, with Robert W. Richter becoming the 18th president of NI, and in April of that year NI named Michael Mitchiner its Ninth Honorary Life Member, in recognition for his years of strong support of the library and the donations of his own numerous excellent numismatic reference works.

August 1989 brought the unwelcome news that Col. Charles K. Panish was stepping down as chairman of NI's Coin Attribution Committee, almost exactly eight years after his appointment, due to failing health and deteriorating eyesight. Mr. Panish further informed the Board of Governors that a poll of the remaining members of his committee revealed that not a single one of them was willing to step into his intimidatingly capable shoes and take up the mantle of the chairmanship. Thus a plea for a volunteer was put out to the membership, and repeated every month thereafter until finally, in December 1989, longtime member and then vice president of NI, Dr. Howard L. Ford, stepped up to the plate and took up the reins of the chairmanship.

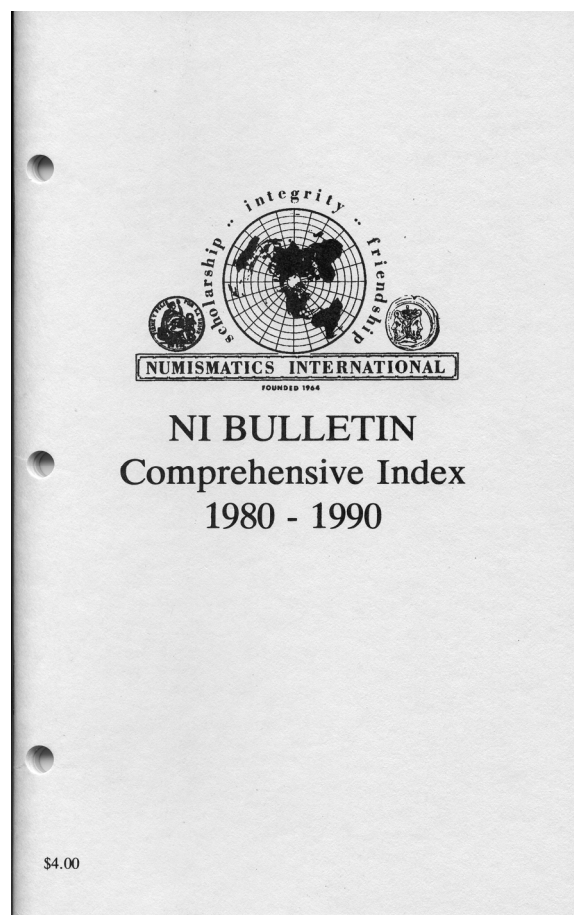
September 1989 brought the official announcement of the discontinuance of the monthly updates of the contents of the NI Reference Coin Collection. These updates had been published regularly since the earliest days of the Bulletin and the last published update had occurred in July of 1989. Henceforth, any member desiring an inventory should write the Curator, Philip L. Lawrence. This by no means meant, however, that the reference collection itself was being discontinued.

The year 1989 also saw the appearance of the numismatic quiz, with one of Dr. John S. Davenport's reference books as a prize for the first five correct answers received. To Editor Marvin Fraley's dismay one such quiz elicited no responses whatsoever, and the quiz was quietly discontinued in January 1990. It is amazing to me that the membership should have displayed such apathy...or maybe the quizzes were simply too hard!

June 1990 brought the shocking news that NI's longtime Article Editor, Fred Drost, had been asked to resign. His ill health had resulted in an ever-increasing backlog of work now over a year old, and Editor Fraley reluctantly felt compelled to call for his resignation. Clearly, this was a most disheartening turn of events for the ever over-worked Mr. Fraley, especially since Fred Drost's contributions in the past had been such that six years earlier he had even been awarded NI's Seventh Honorary Life Membership. Mr. Fraley asked for volunteers to step forward to fill the vacant position; nevertheless, in September he announced the discontinuation of the position of Article Editor altogether, citing a sufficiency of assistance from various volunteers. But also in September 1990, in another blow to Mr. Fraley, the position of Book News and Reviews Editor became vacant with the sudden death of Raymond J. Hébert. His detailed obituary, together with that of past president and then Chairman of the Board of Governors, C. C. 'Andy' Andrews appeared in this issue. In November, Donald S. Yarab was appointed to fill the position of the departed Mr. Hébert.



In January 1991 Dr. Howard L. Ford, Chairman of NI's Coin Attribution Committee was installed as NI's 19th president. The February issue brought the happy news that the second ten-year (actually eleven-year) index for the years 1980-1990 was in preparation and would be mailed to all the members at no charge. I had never seen one and almost doubted its existence, but the April 1992 issue of the Bulletin contained a tipped-in insert entitled "Once in a Lifetime Sale of Back Issues of Numismatics International Bulletins" and at the foot thereof the availability of this combined 1980-1990 index is clearly stated, available to the membership at no charge. Thereafter Elmore Scott very kindly gifted me with one. It is illustrated in **Figure 6**. It is my opinion that this multi-year index is quite scarce. Apparently not too many members requested their copy. It is a 67-page booklet in the same size format as the Bulletin, dedicated to the memory of Sydney W. Beany by its compiler, Dick Schubert.

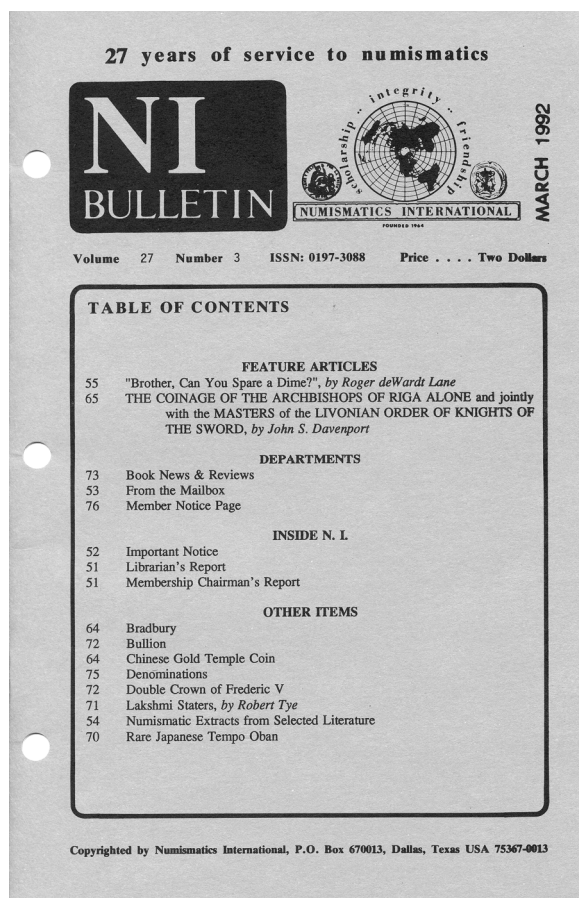


**Figure 6**

August 1991 brought the news that Founder Member, former Secretary-Treasurer, former Vice President, 7th President, and Chairman of the Board of Governors Kary T. (Ed) Edwards had died. Another of the great volunteers of NI was gone.

The October 1991 issue included a tipped-in letter to the membership from President Howard Ford with an interesting tidbit concerning the library: He described it as now containing "some 3,500 volumes." This would indicate a modest increase of just 500 or so titles since 1986. In January 1992 Librarian Hulse confirmed that only 65 titles had been added to the library in 1991. He called this a "good year." Clearly, no bibliophilic members had died and willed their entire libraries to NI during this time!

In March 1992 a small but significant change was instituted in the Bulletin's cover: The Table of Contents now sported page numbers first and titles after, without a leader. This (in my opinion) less attractive design continued for a whole year through the February 1993 issue. See **Figure 7** for the first example of this format. The May 1992 issue of the Bulletin saw publication of the seventy-seventh (!) and final installment of the superb series entitled "An Introduction to Byzantine Coinage" which originally began in March 1985. This series, yet another true pearl of the Bulletin, was originally authored by the prolific contributor I. C. G. Campbell and ended with the equally prolific and erudite R. R. Kutcher.



**Figure 7**

Block's excellent series on Napoleonic Medals that had begun eight years earlier, in October 1985. A list of their appearances was appended to that installment. Unbeknownst to Editor Fraley at that time, Mr. Block would grace the Bulletin with yet one more installment (this time truly the last!), fully five years later, in January of 1998.

I will presume to mention now that September of 1993 saw the publication of my own first paltry foray into the world of numismatic writing. Editor Marvin Fraley made the process of submitting my article to the Bulletin a stressless pleasure. I thank Marvin for that, and will say here and now that NI editors' admirable tradition of not unnecessarily tinkering with the submissions of their contributors is, in my opinion, one of the hallmarks of the *NI Bulletin's* excellence and its lasting success: as a prospective author you can rest easy that what you write is exactly what will be published, excepting only the correction of blatant errors which it is any good editor's responsibility to catch. This policy stands in marked contrast to what generally happens at some of the other (larger) numismatic publications, where the editors seem to feel an imperative need to justify their existence by mercilessly hacking a submission to death and altering it beyond any semblance of its original self. Most fortunately, our current Editor, Herman Blanton, has continued Editors Fraley and Vandigriff's light-handed approach in this respect, and he is to be greatly commended for this.

The December 1992 issue of the Bulletin saw a disquieting notice from Granvyl Hulse that for the first time in sixteen years not a single book had been borrowed from the library the past summer. He correctly pointed out that there [would be] "no practical reason for us to try and expand our reference material if no one is going to make use of it."

In January of 1993 Founder Member and Honorary Life Member John E. Vandigriff became NI's 20th president, serving in this capacity for the second time, 26 years after having first served as such in 1967.

In March 1993 the less attractive Table of Contents format on the cover of the Bulletin was done away with, restoring the previous more balanced design that featured titles followed by a leader to the page number. The December 1993 issue saw the sixteenth and purportedly final installment of David

In February 1994 Book Librarian Hulse reported that the library now had over “2,200 titles primarily devoted to foreign coins,” of which over half were in the language of the country concerned. This was a shocking statistic given that fully eight years earlier, in March 1986, the library was reported to have 2,180 different titles, and in October of 1991 was reported to have 3,500 volumes. Was there that much duplication? Or had NI deaccessioned material from its library?

In August 1994, due to underutilization by the membership of the Member Notice Page, the rules for its use were changed for the first time to permit “for sale” notices, the latter having the lowest priority after research notices, wanted items and trades offered. No call for nominations for new officers for the 1995-1996 term appears in the Bulletin in 1994. I can only assume that this notice and subsequent ballot form must instead have accompanied the Bulletin as tipped-in inserts since a new slate of officers was duly installed in January 1995, when Philip Brandenburg became NI’s 21st president.

In July 1995 Numismatics International rounded out its third decade of existence, and embarked on its fourth. The year 1995 is notable for the absence of any event of significance in the history of NI (at least as reflected within the Bulletin), excepting only the continuing high quality of the Bulletin itself. In May 1995 the Book and Periodical Librarians Granvyl Hulse and Jim Haley put out a truly surprising appeal to the membership: they had just discovered that they did not have *a single copy* of OIN’s *Journal of International Numismatics* in either library. Considering that NI had absorbed OIN and its entire library this was astounding. The call for donations of issues of *JOIN* for the library continued sporadically thereafter and appear never to have borne fruit since none ever appeared in the donations reports! Coming across these pleas from Librarians Hulse and Haley during my research for this article, I contacted our current Librarian, David Gracey, and he confirmed that to this day *not a single copy* of *JOIN* existed in the NI Library! So I dug out a few duplicates that I happened to possess and sent them off to Mr. Gracey. Thus, 13 years later it can now be said that the NI Periodical Library possesses at least a few issues! The fact of the complete absence from the NI libraries of any issues of *JOIN*, together with my own meager holdings of this journal, coupled with the total dearth of response to Messrs. Hulse and Haley’s requests for donations by the membership (which also still went to members of OIN absorbed by NI in the merger) all lead me to believe that runs of this journal must be quite rare. The library of the American Numismatic Association in Colorado only possesses (according to its online library catalogue), four separate issues, and the library of the American Numismatic Society in New York, possibly the finest numismatic library in the world, possesses only an incomplete set, starting at Volume 5! The membership of NI is advised that to this day the NI Library seeks to complete its run of the *Journal of International Numismatics*.

In February 1996 and again in March Librarian Hulse compares himself to the Maytag repairman, alarmed at the inactivity of the library. The membership just wasn’t checking out enough books and he worried that the reason for having a library at all was vanishing.

September 1996 brought the sad news of the passing of Col. Charles K. Panish, former Chairman of NI’s Coin Attribution Committee and Eighth Honorary Life

Member. The passing of this giant in the field of worldwide numismatic knowledge was acknowledged in a poignant yet unsigned obituary which listed many of his impressive achievements. This was followed in November by another tribute from Holland Wallace.

In October 1996 Mr. Fraley presented an increasingly rare "From the Editor" notice with an alarming report that for the first time ever there had been no new applications for membership, no new donations, no new material for the library and no book reviews received. This was a disheartening indication of a general malaise in the activities of Numismatics International and a declining interest in its Bulletin that had begun in 1993. An ever-increasing number of reprints of fillers and larger pieces from the 1970's made their appearance and it is my considered opinion (on the evidence of a careful study of just the Bulletins alone) that were it not for the continuous inflow of articles on a variety of interesting subjects from the incomparable Bob Forrest (which continue almost unabated to the present day), NI and its Bulletin might have tottered towards foundering altogether.

In January 1997 Walter Leonard became NI's 22nd president, for the 1997-1998 term. In April the librarians repeated their unsuccessful appeal for copies of OIN's Journal, originally made in May of 1995. In February 1997 Librarian Hulse alerted the membership that the completed Library List, current through 1996 was now available on 3-inch disks in ASCII text for \$5.

The April 1997 issue saw the first of what would be a long series spanning several years of John S. Davenport's pieces entitled "Some Unique or Very Rare European Dollars." In May 1997 a low key insert in the Bulletin from John Vandigriff announced that Numismatics International now had a presence on the worldwide web at [www.numis.org](http://www.numis.org). NI had now entered the modern electronic age! In October 1997 a tipped-in insert from President Leonard dated August 25th expressed concern about the "graying" of the membership of NI, and in October of 1998 he repeated this concern in his farewell letter.

In November 1998 an announcement appeared in the Bulletin that the Board of Governors had approved the request of "some life membership applicants" to be issued special life membership numbers requested by them. The Membership Chairman was given authority to assign these special numbers, to be any number within 100 of the last sequentially issued number, which was number LM #129. In that same issue notice was given that Life Member number 200 was assigned under the new rule. In this author's humble opinion, this was one of the worst decisions ever taken by the Board of Governors of Numismatics International in the 34 years since its founding. Destroying the numerical sequence and chronological accuracy of the membership records, whether of Life Memberships or regular memberships to satisfy the numerical whim or fancy of a member is just plain wrong.

In January 1999 Glen Shake took office as NI's 23rd president for the biennial term through 2000. In July 1999 appeared news that David H. Block and Ralph A. Cannito had been awarded Honorary Life Memberships. Fully ten years and three months had elapsed since NI had bestowed the last such honor. Although not specifically stated, these were the Tenth and Eleventh Honorary Life Memberships awarded.

David Block was being honored for his eighteen years as curator of the John Graves Memorial Paper Money Collection and for his numerous excellent contributions to the Bulletin totaling, among other items, 27 feature articles since 1974, including the superb Napoleonic Medals series. Surprisingly, just five months later, the inside cover of the December 1999 issue saw a change in the curatorship of the Graves collection to William E. Benson, a Founder Member. No hint whatsoever appeared in the Bulletin at the time as to the reason why Mr. Block was no longer the curator. It was not until December 2002 that the membership learned, via Mr. Block's obituary, that ill health had prompted him to resign the curatorship of the Graves collection.

Ralph Cannito was honored with the Eleventh Honorary Life Membership for his outstanding service to Numismatics International through his contributions to the NI Reference Collection, totaling thousands of different coins. His donations alone constituted a significant part of the collection as a whole. Mr. Cannito's has been the last Honorary Life Membership awarded by NI up to the present day.

In December 1999 Mr. Shake resigned the presidency after just 11 months in office, the first and only NI president ever to do so. Vice President Gordon Robinson duly assumed the presidency to complete the remainder Mr. Shake's 1999-2000 term, and David Gracey (our current Librarian) who'd been Governor at Large, was elevated to the Vice Presidency. Again no hint whatsoever appears in the Bulletin for this rather substantial shake-up in the direction of NI, and it was not until October 2000 that a letter to the membership from President Robinson in the Bulletin shed but a tiny glimmer of light on these events.

In February 2000, the Donations Report listed the largest cash donation to NI ever to appear in the Bulletin thus far— \$1,000 from an anonymous donor plus another \$1,000 matching grant from the donor's employer. Similar donations with matching grants from that donor's employer were also made in subsequent years. This is something that NI members working for generous corporations with matching gift programs should keep in mind: if you donate either cash or volunteer your time to NI, be sure to ask your employer to match the gift with the cash equivalent of your time or actual cash value of your donation. And, it is tax deductible for both you and your employer, since NI is a tax exempt §501(c)(3) organization.

Almost eclipsed by this donation in the February 2000 issue of the Bulletin was an enigmatic notice of yet another donation of \$100 cash from Founder Member Jack E. Lewis. Significant about this donation was its intended purpose: the "Woodward Collection." No hint whatsoever appears in the *NI Bulletin* as to what the Woodward collection is, or when it became a part of NI's holdings, or who its curator was. To this day, the Woodward Collection remains a complete NI enigma.

In May 2000, NI members received their separately printed April and May Bulletins together in one mailing. A little note from the Board of Governors explained that a member's car had been stolen with the entire print run of the April Bulletin in the trunk. Since the car was never recovered the April issue had had to be reprinted in its entirety.

In June 2000, the back cover of the Bulletin featured a very interesting and rather substantial filler piece; then, in the September issue, a somewhat sheepish Editor Fraley had to admit that this piece had succeeded in thoroughly pulling his leg, as it had proven to be an April Fool's prank which had gotten by him. But this was not the end of the matter as this little prank would have a further impact in the Bulletin in the months to come. Ahh, the joys of numismatic scholarship!

The August 2000 issue of the NI Bulletin saw the beginning of a Volume number error which persisted all the way through the April 2001 issue. The correct volume number (36) finally reappeared with the May 2001 issue. However, the issue number and month were always correct for all the intervening issues.

In October 2000, a tipped-in letter from President Gordon Robinson dated October 1st mentioned the fact that he became president upon the resignation of Mr. Shake in November of 1999 that I alluded to earlier, but unfortunately no reason for the resignation was given. He noted that NI had gained 37 new members and 8 new life members, but bemoaned the lack new young members, just as some of his predecessors had. In November 2000, Mr. Fraley lost his Book News and Reviews Editor, Donald S. Yarab, but again, no reason for this appears in the Bulletin.

In January 2001 President Gordon J. Robinson was elected in his own right as the 25th president of NI, and he and Vice President David Gracey took office for the 2001-2002 term. Within the same issue a blistering letter from long-time member Oliver D. Cresswell of Ireland took the membership to task for the declining quality of articles in the Bulletin and therein admitted that he had been the prankster who pulled the fast one that had gotten by Mr. Fraley the previous summer. He used the theme of the prank to subtly highlight the fact that the preponderance of articles in the Bulletin was more suitable to a "parish magazine" than a respectable numismatic journal. This was an obvious snipe at Bob Forrest's prolific contributions to the Bulletin, and I must say that at the time I tended to sympathize a bit with Mr. Cresswell's sentiments, but *only* to the extent of the *amount* of the material alluded to by Mr. Cresswell, not its quality. While I greatly respect and admire Bob Forrest's erudition and commitment to NI in indefatigably submitting material, in hindsight the membership (including me) had nobody but themselves to blame for the volume of material on religious medals published in the Bulletin, since Mr. Fraley could only publish what the members of NI submitted to him, and he was already having to scrape the bottom of the barrel with reprints from 30 years ago, as he himself made abundantly clear in his "From the Editor's Desk" soapbox in the same issue. Needless to say, February 2001's issue swiftly brought Mr. Forrest's rather heated riposte to Mr. Cresswell's attack; therein he explained that he and Mr. Fraley had "a working arrangement whereby [his] religious "series" is not allowed to squeeze out more mainstream numismatic articles by other members but works around them." Mr. Forrest made (in my opinion) a very valid point that his submissions filled a gap in the medallic literature in the English language in this field, and that was indisputably true. His erudition and style made them all a fascinating read, regardless of whether there were too many of them in the Bulletin or not. Incidentally, in 2007 NI published *An Introduction to Religious Medals*, Mr. Forrest's fascinating book on the subject, which is still available for sale to the membership.

The January 2001 issue is also notable in that it marks the appearance of Howard A. Daniel III as Moderator of NI's Educational Programs, taking over this position from William F. Spengler. Mr. Daniel has been a tireless volunteer ever since, serving as the public face of NI at its table at countless coin shows, and putting together the Educational Programs that fulfill NI's mission as an educational institution. Many thanks are due this estimable gentleman.

In March 2001 Herman Blanton was appointed the new Book News & Reviews Editor, a post vacant since November 2000. Little did Mr. Blanton know then that this would lead four years hence to his becoming Editor of the *NI Bulletin* itself, a post he holds to this day. April 2001 brought the sad news of the passing of Founder Member and Past President William E. Benson. His moving obituary detailed his great contributions to NI throughout his 36 years of active involvement in our organization. This necrology, though not signed, was penned by President Robinson.

In August 2001 the Bulletin saw the 40th and final installment of John S. Davenport's "Some Unique or Very Rare European Dollars." Also at an end were his continuing catalogue revisions, the last of which was for the town of Hameln. The reason for the discontinuance was straightforward: Mr. Davenport had passed away. I met him once when he still lived in Coral Gables, Florida and was struck by his diminutive size, yet boundless energy. This estimable gentleman never received the obituary in the *NI Bulletin* that he was due as a longstanding member of NI and prolific contributor to our Bulletin, not to mention as one of the great authors in the field of international numismatics whose many books remain standard references today. May he rest in peace.

In October 2001 the third printed cumulative ten-year index for 1991-2000 was offered to the membership, but only if ordered for \$3. This 54-page opus (the last four of which are blank) was not graced by any cover beyond the plain paper it was printed on, folded and stapled. It appears to be scarce today as well. Coincidentally, the news that Dick Schubert, NI's Index Compiler for seventeen years, had resigned made its appearance in this issue as well. A volunteer to replace him was sought.

July of 2002, the start of NI's 38th year, saw an unheralded increase in individual annual dues from \$15 to \$20 on the inside front cover of the Bulletin. The Membership Chairman's Report, which might have made mention of the resolution authorizing this increase said nothing. Also in this month's issue a brief history of NI appears. This interesting article, unsigned but possibly authored by either Marvin Fraley or Ross Schraeder, confirmed many details of my research, but also presented a bit of conflicting information regarding the founders of NI, which I detail in the notes for the Founder Member list at the end of this article.

In August 2002 an amusing little history of the NI Library by Book Librarian Granvyl Hulse appeared. In it he presented his hard-learned wisdom of not storing a large library in the attic of one's home. As of February 2002 the library possessed 2,539 different titles, not counting the vast collection of magazines and catalogues then housed a few miles away in the home of Periodical Librarian James D. Haley; about these it is said "we frankly have no idea as to the number of the latter two items we have on our shelves."

In December 2002 we learned of the death of David H. Block, Tenth Honorary Life Member of NI, prolific article contributor and former Curator of the John Graves Memorial Paper Money Collection. His obituary made plain at last that ill health had been the reason Mr. Block had stepped down (in December 1999) as Curator after so many years.

The January 2003 issue saw the installation of the new slate of officers for the 2003-2004 term. Vice President David Gracey (our current Librarian) now became NI's 26th president. In February a terse but surprising announcement by the Book and Periodical librarians informed the membership that the entire library had now been transferred to the Periodical Librarian, James D. Haley. No doubt Book Librarian Granvyl Hulse's perilously sagging attic and bulging walls were no longer up to the task of housing it all!

Although no formal announcement was made, in March 2003 we learned of the appointment of Michael Metras as NI's new Index Compiler, fully eighteen months after the resignation of Dick Schubert. His name simply appears on the inside front cover of the Bulletin, then disappeared just as surreptitiously, with "position open" appearing in its place only eleven months later. In February 2004 the printed 2003 *NI Bulletin Index* was sent to the membership, compiled by Christopher D. Carson, however no hint of the reason behind Mr. Metras's ephemeral eleven-month stint and disappearance was ever published in the Bulletin.

In October 2003, a tipped-in letter from President Gracey announced that for the first time NI dues would be payable electronically via PayPal, an internet instant payment service (today owned by eBay). This was indeed a convenient option, sparing the membership from having to write a check and lick a stamp, although this service would cost NI a portion of the dues collected in service fees.

The April 2004 issue of the *NI Bulletin* was a truly momentous one indeed. It contained a tipped-in note from the Board of Governors announcing the death of one of the early giants of NI—Jack E. Lewis, Founder Member, Third Honorary Life Member, 2nd and 14th president, Membership Chairman, *NI Bulletin* printer liaison and sometime holder of practically every office in NI, at the age of 86, of a heart attack. His moving obituary only made its appearance in the August 2004 issue. One truly cannot say more of Jack Lewis than that NI might not exist today were it not for his never-ceasing work and generous support. The obituary was unsigned but is attributed to Dr. Howard L. Ford in the Index for 2004.

Even more shocking in the same note was the announcement of the resignation (this time true) of Marvin L. Fraley from the editorship of our Bulletin, after only (!) 39 years as its Editor in Chief. Mr. Fraley was the *NI Bulletin*, and he only reluctantly took this step, for health reasons. The membership no doubt awaited with trepidation the news of who his successor might be. A more congenial and easy to work with editor can scarcely be imagined, and it is my opinion that without Mr. Fraley's tireless efforts in editing our Bulletin, not to mention his enormous and ongoing contributions of time, cash, and coins, NI might have perished long ago. Mr. Fraley was immediately designated, and continues to be to this day, Editor Emeritus of the



*NI Bulletin*. He is also to be remembered as NI's First President, Second Honorary Life Member and first Curator of NI's Reference Collections. Fortunately, Mr. Fraley's health slowly recovered and we wish him all the very best in his retirement.

The April 2004 issue also brought news of the death in January at age 90 of Randolph Zander, Patron of the Library, Fifth Honorary Life Member, prolific contributor to the Bulletin and to the NI Library, and longtime Editor of the *Journal of the Russian Numismatic Society*.

The May 2004 issue brought news of the appointment of Founder Member John E. Vandigriff, as interim Editor of the Bulletin. He was NI's 3rd and 20th president, Fourth Honorary Life Member and Publications Chairman. Once again, a core member had stepped up to the plate and volunteered all his time and effort to keep NI and its Bulletin alive. Mr. Vandigriff's stewardship of the Bulletin is marked by subtle yet significant changes to its cover format: the month and year were printed in very large font and the Table of Contents title changed its position. He reiterates a plea for more submissions from the membership and contributed a piece himself in this issue.

The June 2004 issue dropped the title of the Table of Contents entirely and saw a small error: The change in the number of years in the phrase "40 years of service to numismatics" occurred one month too early, in June. Traditionally, Mr. Fraley had increased this number by one with the July issue each year, commemorating the founding of NI in July of 1964.

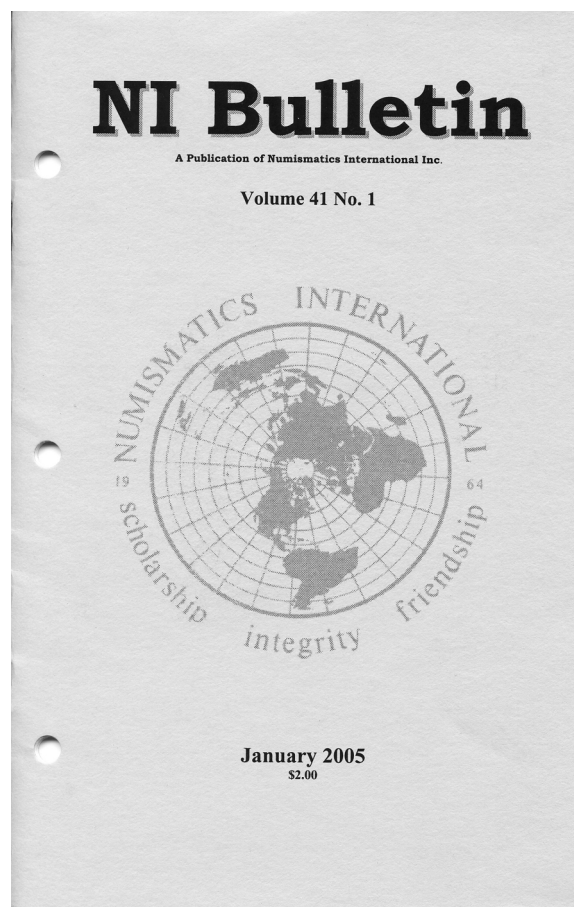
In July 2004, Coin Attribution Committee Chairman Howard L. Ford once again encouraged the membership to submit mystery coins, signifying that this service was being reborn (for the third time). The August 2004 issue also brought at last the belated obituary of Founder Member Jack E. Lewis alluded to earlier. In September 2004 we see the appearance of Christopher D. Carson on the inside front cover as the newly appointed Index Editor for the *NI Bulletin*. I will note that there has not been a printed index issued for the Bulletin since this appointment. However, it should be remembered that Mr. Carson also volunteers his time as Recording Secretary of NI. This, in addition to his ongoing efforts to colonize the moon keep him very busy. Nevertheless, in recent correspondence he has assured me that he will soon be presenting the membership with the printed Bulletin indexes for the years 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008.

The December 2004 issue was notable in that it lacked the "Inside N.I." section that traditionally contained the Membership Chairman's report, the Librarians' report and any possible announcements from the Board, the Editor, or other officers.

In January 2005, Dr. Howard L. Ford became NI's 27th president and simultaneously a complete alteration occurred in the cover design of the *NI Bulletin* (see **Figure 8**.) This change coincided with the supposed assumption of the post of Editor of the Bulletin by NI's erstwhile Book News & Reviews Editor, Herman Blanton. (This latter post disappeared from the inside cover of the Bulletin and no doubt was seamlessly blended in with that of Editor, thereby reversing the split in these duties engendered by Mr. Fraley nearly twenty years earlier.) I say "supposed" since

apparently Editor Blanton did not actually become the editor of the *Bulletin* until September of 2005, and interim Editor John Vandigriff actually continued to publish the *Bulletin* under Mr. Blanton's name during this nine month period. See my comments on the July 2005 issue below for more details on this strange state of affairs.

The new cover design of the *NI Bulletin* for January 2005 did away with the table of contents and sported an entirely new logo and larger title. NI's motto now went around the bottom half of the polar map of the earth with the tops of the letters facing inward, and the numerals of the founding year 1964 added, split in half so that 19 and 64 appeared to left and right of the map at 9 and 3 o'clock respectively. Moreover, gone were the Peruvian Sol coin with Guatemalan countermark to the left of the polar map, and ancient coin to the right of the map. Nowhere is any resolution of the Board of Governors regarding these alterations to the logo mentioned.



**Figure 8**

The Table of Contents now moved to the third page of the *Bulletin* and the front cover and inside front cover were no longer considered in the page numbering scheme, although the back cover (inside and out) was still numbered. This new design format also contained an important error: The volume number of the *Bulletin* was incorrectly printed as 41 instead of 40. This error was only caught and corrected with the April issue of that year. The reason for the error may have been that the editor was misled by the very prominent phrase "40 years of service to numismatics" which appeared at the top of the previous *Bulletin* cover, and whose number of years never coincided with the *Bulletin's* volume number from July to December of each year, because the *Bulletin's* volume number corresponded to the calendar year of issue starting in 1970 with the January issue each year, whereas the "years of service to numismatics" phrase was numbered according to the actual years of Numismatics International's existence as an organization, starting in July of 1964. This phrase, incidentally, disappeared entirely with the new cover design in January 2005, ending a tradition established over thirty years earlier with the July 1974 edition.

The January 2005 issue also saw another important change in NI's slate of officers: James D. Haley now became NI's Librarian, adding the Book Library to the Periodicals and Catalogues Library that he already curated; longtime Book Librarian Granvyl G. Hulse semi-retired and now appeared as "Librarian Emeritus." With this

change the NI Library had come full circle and was once again consolidated in a single location under the administration of one dedicated volunteer.

In June 2005, a long letter to the membership from President Howard Ford contained the interesting tidbit that the membership had declined to under 450. This came as a shock considering that at its peak membership numbered nearly 900. Dr. Ford also continued to exercise the thankless post of Coin Attribution Committee chairman, which he had assumed after the resignation of Charles K. Panish in 1989. It had withered silently away until Dr. Ford resurrected it in July 2004.

In July 2005, a very strange “From the Editor’s Desk” announcement appeared, indicating that Herman Blanton would be taking over the position of Editor of the *NI Bulletin* starting in September 2005, despite the fact that Mr. Blanton had been shown as the Editor on the inside front cover since January 2005! But members were encouraged to continue copying the apparently still active interim editor, John Vandigriff, until that time. It would appear from this most surprising announcement that Mr. Vandigriff had actually been the one who continued to put out the Bulletin incognito under Mr. Blanton’s name all these months. This author can only comment (tongue in cheek of course) that had such a substitution occurred with the assayers whose initials appear on Spanish colonial coinage it would have swiftly earned them both the death penalty! The integrity of the *NI Bulletin* needs not perhaps to be similarly guaranteed, though its intrinsic value is no less precious to the membership!

This July issue also contained the survey from President Ford alluded to at the beginning of this article, hinting at further momentous changes to come in an effort to reduce costs. Given the enormous decline in membership bemoaned by past presidents, this need now became self-evident.

The September 2005 issue finally brought us Herman Blanton’s true first issue as Editor, and in his first “Editor’s Message” he hastened to explain that while he had been appointed Editor at the end of 2004, the ongoing remodeling of his house had prevented him from assuming the full burden of his duties until his house was in order. John Vandigriff had indeed shouldered the task all this time, in addition to shouldering a full load as Publications Chairman with a big book in the works, not to mention holding down a full-time job as an attorney. (Mr. Vandigriff is also NI’s legal counsel.) Thanks are due to Founder Member Vandigriff for seamlessly keeping the Bulletin going throughout the transition period between Mr. Fraley’s retirement and Mr. Blanton’s commencement as Editor.

In that first note to the membership in September Mr. Blanton ominously hinted that the Bulletin might see some changes as he experimented with its format, or if the Board decided to alter it. Thankfully, in my opinion, no changes have occurred in the *size* of the Bulletin, for the reasons expressed in the introduction to this article; however, the October issue did see subtle signs of Editor Blanton’s “experimentation” with a change in the font of the volume number and date on the cover. He must not have liked it much since he reverted to the original font with the November issue.

The October 2005 issue also brought us the sad news that NI's most prolific book reviewer and frequent article contributor Jerry H. Remick had passed away. Mr. Remick had contributed the very first book review to appear in the Bulletin 37 years earlier, in the July 1968 issue. Also in this issue another long missive from President Ford provided very interesting background on former Editors Fraley and Vandigriff, and current Editor Blanton. Would that all NI presidents had been as forthcoming as Dr. Ford. Only our tenth president, Irving Berlin, had shared as much insight into the organization's affairs, back in 1974.

In January of 2006, Editor Blanton brought the welcome news that the Board of Governors had, at his suggestion, reinstituted the "Article of the Year" award. This prestigious award had, for unknown reasons, been abandoned in 1989. This would now actually consist of two awards: one for "Best Original Article" for full feature-length submissions, and another for "Best Short Article." The winners for the period from the last quarter of 2005 through 2006 would eventually be announced in the April 2007 issue. This award is, I believe, a great motivator for members with numismatic knowledge to come forth and try their hand at sharing it: you do NI and our hobby a great service, and winning a little award in recognition of your efforts and your knowledge is certainly a nice bonus.

In March 2006 another of President Ford's informative letters announced the resignation of Ross Schraeder as Secretary of NI. Mr. Schraeder had held this post for 21 years (since January 1985) and would now remain as Archivist for NI. The function of Archivist/Historian had been just one of several functions embedded in the post of Secretary; now its other more demanding tasks would be split into two further positions, that of Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary. The former was assigned to Christopher D. Carson (NI's youngest officer and currently also Bulletin Index Compiler) and the latter to past president Gordon Robinson, another long-time member and tireless volunteer.

In May 2006 the position of Librarian suddenly became open. No indication is given as to why James Haley was no longer in this post. The search for Jim Haley's replacement continued for fully eleven months, until long time member and indefatigable volunteer David Gracey finally accepted the thankless task in April 2007. The May 2006 issue also saw the addition of the volume number, issue number and date to the Table of Contents, although these continued to appear on the cover as well.

The July 2006 issue contained a tipped-in insert announcing the formation of NI's first internet discussion group hosted on Yahoo! Groups. This represented another leap forward into the electronic age and was the result of one of the initiatives for revitalization and modernization brought to the table by President Ford and the rest of the Board. The moderator of this valuable resource is James Martin, who has also undertaken the enormous task of cross-indexing the entire contents of the *NI Bulletin* to make it electronically searchable by keyword. This monumental task is close to completion, and the fruit of his labors can be downloaded by the membership in Microsoft Excel format from NI's Yahoo! Groups page at:  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/numismatics/database>

In August 2006 the Bulletin saw the reappearance of a numismatic crossword puzzle on the back cover, the first such in well over a decade since the last of these by George Becht. Its author was not given. The October 2006 issue contained a tipped-in dealer advertising flyer that was the result of some changes that arose out of President's Ford's survey in 2005; but of interest was the note from President Ford on the back of that flyer mentioning that the move of the entire NI library from New England back to Dallas had been completed. The post of Librarian still remained open at this time although the long retired Granvyl Hulse continued to be listed as Librarian Emeritus. However, this well-deserved distinction inexplicably vanished from the inside front cover of the Bulletin with the February 2007 issue, and no reason was ever given for its mysterious disappearance, although Mr. Fraley does continue to be listed as Editor Emeritus of the Bulletin to this day, as well he should.

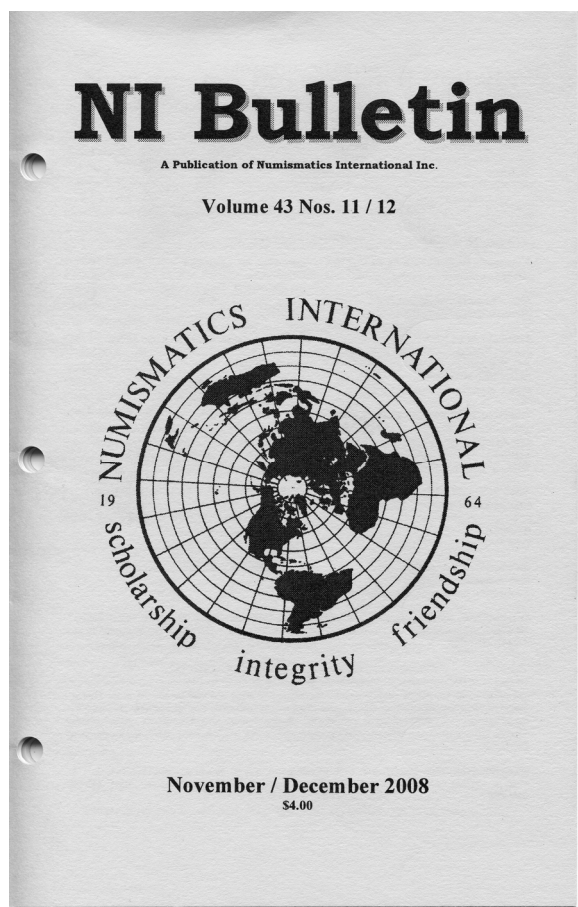
In January 2007 Michael Jones became NI's 28th president (although the inside cover of the Bulletin inadvertently did not reflect this until February), and Dr. Ford moved up to the chairmanship of the Board of Governors, from whence his most informative newsletters thankfully continued. Through his writings the membership has gained a much greater acquaintanceship with the organization's officers and its affairs.

In April 2007 the winners of the 2006 Best Original Feature Article of the Year and Best Original Short Article were announced. The winner of the short article award was Kent Ponterio for his piece entitled *The Durango Mint Pattern 8 Reales of 1840*, published in the October 2006 issue of the Bulletin.

I will now take this opportunity to say that I regard the Best Original Feature Article of the Year Award for 2006 that was bestowed upon me for my little contribution to the *NI Bulletin* in March of that year (*The Numismatic Legacy of the Insurrection of Túpac Amaru II*) as one of the most gratifying numismatic accomplishments of my life, and I thank the NI Board of Governors and Editor Herman Blanton for voting me this singular honor.

The April 2007 issue of the Bulletin was significant in that contained one of the longest and most detailed reports on the Board of Governors' meeting and NI affairs by its Chairman, Dr. Howard Ford. The most significant bit of news was that after eleven months vacant, the post of NI Librarian was at last filled by past president David Gracey. Besides his demonstrated commitment to NI Mr. Gracey also holds a degree in Library Science. A more fitting candidate for the post can scarcely be imagined. Mr. Gracey continues as Librarian to the present day.

In his letter of April 2007 Dr. Ford also reports having received 107 responses to his survey. The most troubling (to me) of the questions presented concerned the printing frequency of the Bulletin. The majority of members favored retaining the status quo of having a monthly Bulletin (myself very much among them), but a few wanted fewer issues. However, in an effort to cut costs, the Board did pass in late 2007 a resolution approving a reduction in publishing frequency. This did not take effect until June 2008 when Editor Blanton condensed the May and June 2008 issues into a single 45-page edition, correctly numbering it Volume 43 Nos. 5/6. This he did again with the next three issues, combining two months in each. See **Figure 9** for an example of one of these covers. This reduced the Bulletin to just eight issues for the



**Figure 9**

year 2008, the last four of which covered the final eight months of the year. Fortunately, the proper numbering sequence was always carefully maintained. This reduced the *NI Bulletin* to just 236 pages for the year 2008, the lowest page count since 1972.

In March 2008 the Best Original Feature Article and Best Original Short Article awards for 2007 were announced. These were won respectively by Horace Flatt for his *The Pasco Mint, Initial Period, 1825-1840 and 1836 Eight Reales* and Jorge Restrepo, for his *Colombian 8 Reales 1770, Santa Fe (de Bogotá) Mint, Assayers VJ*. In addition, a Special Recognition for Outstanding Research was awarded to Glenn Murray for his piece entitled *King Philip II, the Missing Assayer Mark on his Coins from the Segovia Mint*. Please see the lists section at the end of this article for full details.

The July/August 2008 issue marks the first appearance of a Coin Quiz by Bob Fritsch, an item which has since become a fairly regular featurette of the Bulletin.

The November/December 2008 issue, saw an error by the printer that caused the next to last page of the Bulletin (the inside back cover) to be repeated on the outside back cover. This error was rectified in the next edition for January/February 2009 wherein the contents of the missing final page of the previous issue (the intended back cover) was printed.

In January 2009 James Terry became the 29th president of NI, and a surprising announcement from Editor Blanton indicated that the Board of Governors had devolved upon him the sole responsibility for selecting and awarding the “Best Article of the Year” awards for 2008. This meant that since its establishment in 1983, the award went from being voted upon by the entire membership to being voted upon by the Board of Governors to being nominated and awarded by just the Editor of the Bulletin. It is my opinion that an argument can be made that the Board of Governors has to a certain extent abdicated its responsibility in this respect. It is this author’s considered opinion that the entire membership should vote from among all the articles submitted, as it was originally done in the past. In the event, Editor Blanton reported that he had had a difficult time choosing from amongst several worthy submissions, and the winners finally selected by him for 2008, entirely deserving of their distinctions, were, for the 2008 Best Original Feature Article, Dr. Eduardo

Dargent-Chamot for his *The Eight Escudo of the Illegal Mint of Lima, 1659-1660*, and for 2008 Best Original Short Article, Ignacio Henao for his *A Rare Colombian Medal, 'From our Country to its Liberators.'* (See list at end for further details.)

The January/February 2009 issue also contained a tipped in letter to the membership from immediate past Chairman of the Board of Governors Howard L. Ford, reporting on the installation of the new slate of officers for the 2009-2010 term, and featuring a New Book Clearance Sale on the back side. Most interestingly, the letter provided an unusual glimpse into the finances of NI. This stated that the organization had earned \$9,275.12 through November 2008 from its brokerage account. Additional income was also being derived from dues, book sales, mail bid sales, and so forth, and the single biggest expense to the organization came from producing, printing and mailing the *NI Bulletin*, amounting to \$8,754.77. Also, NI was moving to a new meeting location for the first time in ten years, to make attendance easier for members.

In March/April 2009 came news of the death of longtime member Edward Herman Roehrs, a renowned collector of West Indies coinage, who had become a member of NI through the merger of the membership of OIN into NI in 1981.

The July/August 2009 issue saw an interesting interchange of letters to the editor that highlighted the Bulletin's function of bringing members together and engendering productive numismatic discussion.

The September/October 2009 issue saw the publication of an interesting article by Kent Ponterio on the early coinage of Mexico which I mention because this excellent offering would turn out to be the eventual winner of the Editor's Choice Award for best feature article of 2009.

The January/February 2010 issue of the *NI Bulletin* noted for the first time on its inside front cover that the cost of a Life Membership was now \$300. No announcement of the impending increase was ever made in the Bulletin, and this whopping 50% increase from \$200 marked the first time the Life Membership fee had been increased since 1977. The increase was apparently in force for some considerable time prior to 2010, however nobody is sure of exactly when the increase was voted into existence. (See further notes concerning this in the section on fees at the end of this article.)

The March/April 2010 issue was a shockingly slim volume coming in at a mere 29 pages. Editor Blanton explained that this was an abbreviated edition in order to permit bundling with the latest Mail Bid Sale. Considering the depressed state of the economy, such a cost saving measure is entirely understandable. Still, it should not fail to alarm the membership that a double issue of our Bulletin can shrink so drastically in content. Consider this a clarion call to submit material lest our wonderful organization and its publication dwindle away altogether. This issue also featured the answers to Bob Fritsch's Coin Quiz *before* the quiz itself! This demanded great discipline on the reader's part to have his eyes "glaze over" upon spotting them so as not to let the cat out of the bag before coming to the quiz itself, so to speak.

In the May/June 2010 issue Editor Blanton announced his selection for winner of the 2009 Best Original Feature article. This award was styled the 2009 Editor's Choice Award, and as mentioned earlier it went to Kent Ponterio for his interesting and richly illustrated work entitled *The Coinage of Mexico, Struck During the Reign of Carlos and Johanna*. Editor Blanton put much careful consideration into his selection, including consulting other members. He also singled out articles by Alberto Paashaus of Brazil and Howard L. Ford as very close contestants for the award.

Now in its forty-fifth continuous year of existence, Numismatics International continues to publish the *NI Bulletin* regularly, which, as of this writing, is at Volume 45 Nos. 7/8, combining the July and August issues for the year 2010. It seems that unless the membership contributes much more material the Bulletin will henceforth continue to consist of just six slim issues per year. Although the quality of the submissions is high, the volume is low. We need to do more! Dues now stand at \$20 per annum, and the Life Membership fee stands at \$300.

The active membership, as of September 2010, stands at just 345 total members (100 Life, 153 Regular, 79 Senior, 8 Library, 4 Honorary and 1 Junior). The highest member number is 2734, although Life Members are not included in this count. Only two of our Founder Members are still active: Messrs. John E. Vandigriff, Fourth Honorary Life Member, Past President, former Chairman of the Board of Governors and currently Chairman of NI Publications, and Marvin L. Fraley, Second Honorary Life Member, Editor Emeritus of the *NI Bulletin*, Past President (the First), former Curator of the NI Reference Collections, and past Chairman of the Board of Governors.

I gratefully acknowledge the assistance I received from Editor Emeritus Marvin Fraley (who, with his incomparable editor's eagle eye spotted a few embarrassing blunders), Editor Herman Blanton, Librarian Emeritus Granvyl (Grany) G. Hulse, Librarian David Gracey, Archivist Ross Schraeder, Mail Bid Sale Manager Carl Young, NI's Yahoo! Groups Moderator and Bulletin Article Indexer James Martin, and NI Book Sales Manager Elmore Scott in the research for this article.

I close now by illustrating some of the changes that the cover page of the *NI Bulletin's* sister publication "Notes of Interest" underwent. I also refer the reader to the lists of data that I have compiled at the end of this article which he or she may find of interest, and to our website: [www.numis.org](http://www.numis.org). Also, the reader is urged to sign up for NI's Yahoo! Groups free online forum at: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/numismatics/>

This last is a tremendous resource: It is like the *NI Bulletin's* Member Notice Page, but on steroids: you can ask questions, add images, reply to questions and view or download James Martin's excellent Articles Index.

Long live Numismatics International!



## A Survey of Numismatics International Publication *Notes of Interest*

*Notes of Interest* was born in January 1970, when the “coins for sale” lists and member announcements were moved out of the *NI Bulletin* to a separate monthly publication. This lasted for eight years. It was always mailed together with the Bulletin, often as a tipped-in insert. The early years of *Notes of Interest* also saw content of greater importance, such as the List of Prices Realized for several of NI’s early Mail Bid Sales. The importance of *Notes of Interest* began to wane in 1975 when the NI Board of Governors voted to stop selling coins directly to its membership, concerned that this practice was alienating potential dealer members and driving away dealer advertising. Nevertheless, *Notes of Interest* continued for three more years, offering only club announcements, dealer advertising and NI sponsored books and other books for sale, as well as members’ ‘for sale’ notices. (The Bulletin itself continued to carry only those Member Notices that related to research and trading of coins, since ‘for sale’ items were strictly forbidden in the *NI Bulletin*.) The discontinuance of the publication of *Notes of Interest* was formally announced in the October 1977 issue of the *NI Bulletin*, but it only slowly petered out, finally disappearing in late 1978.

The more haphazard nature of *Notes of Interest* is illustrated by its logo, the whimsical nature of which varied frequently and did not settle into some semblance of regularity until June 1976. In the early years it always featured a different drawing of a coin until this was permanently substituted by the NI logo in June, 1976. See Figures 9 through 17 for illustrations of some of the major varieties of this publication’s masthead. It was Founder Member and 3rd President John E. Vandigriff who did all the composition and publishing work for the *Notes of Interest* and changed the front page with different coin sketches to add variety.

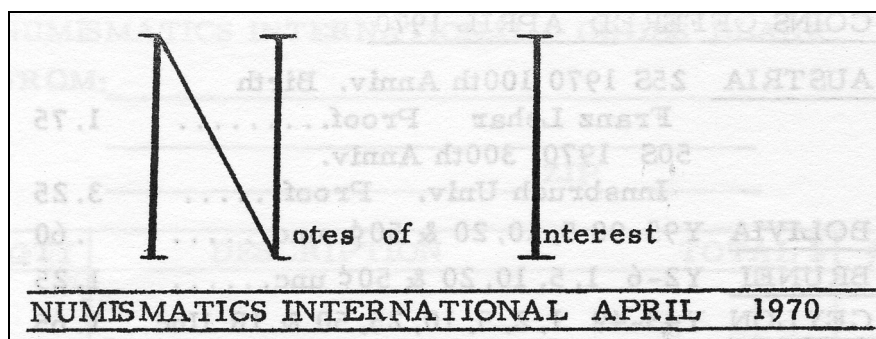


Figure 10: The first hand-drawn logo of NI’s *Notes of Interest*, April, 1970.

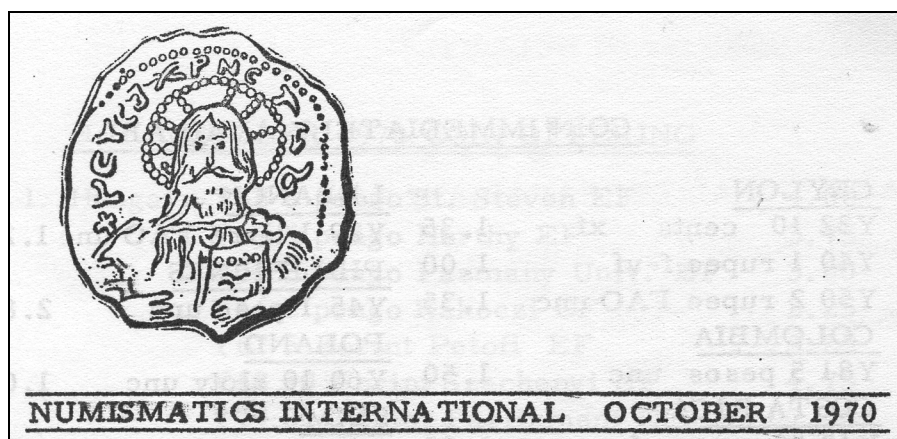


Figure 11: *Notes of Interest*, October 1970, printed in russet ink and missing the publication's name.

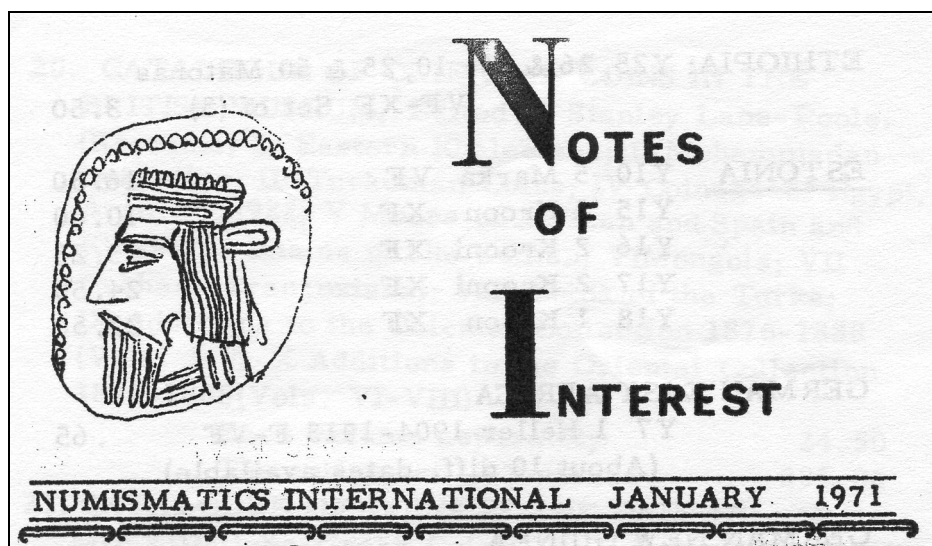


Figure 12: *Notes of Interest*, January 1971.

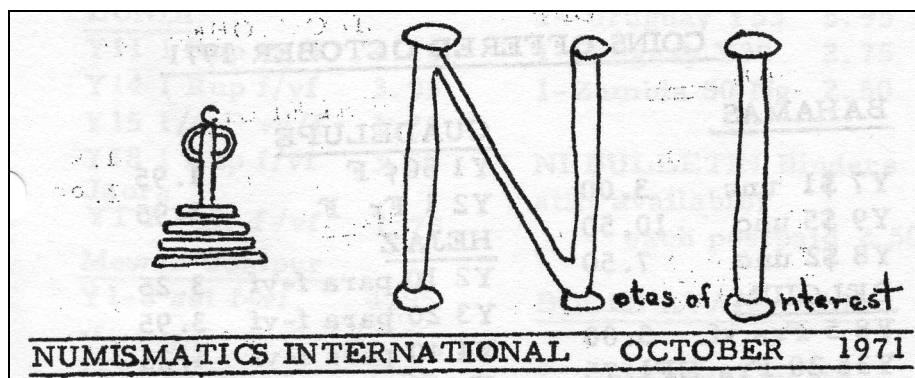


Figure 13: *Notes of Interest*, October 1971.

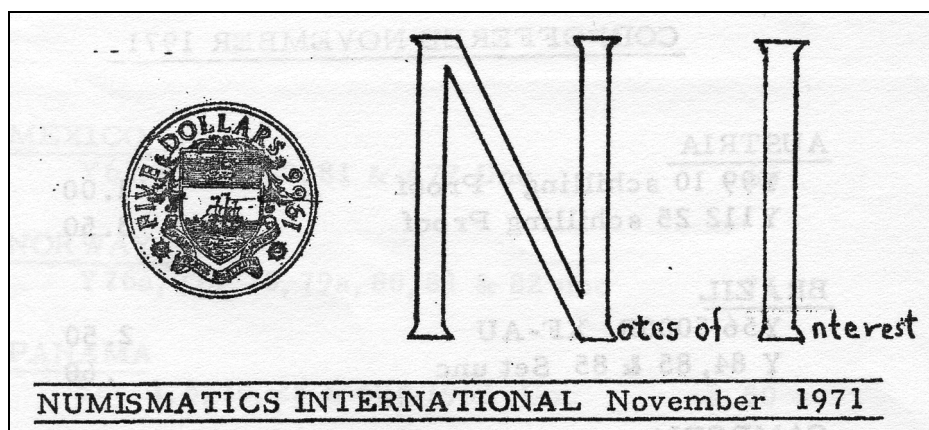


Figure 14: *Notes of Interest*, November 1971.

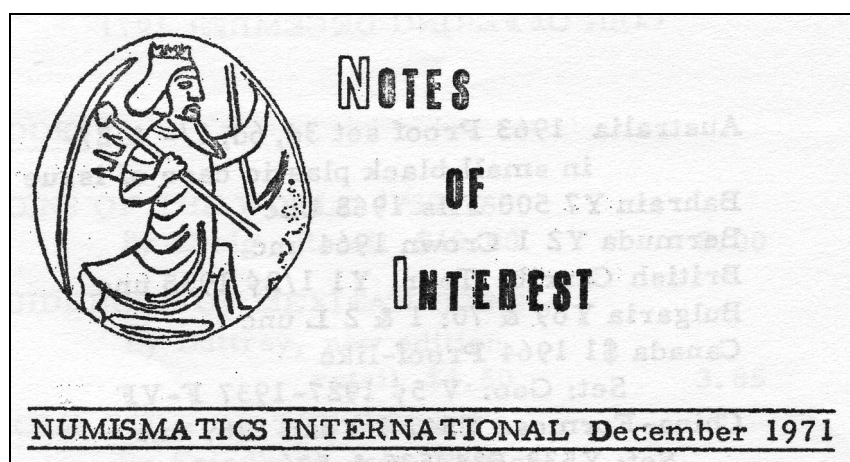


Figure 15: *Notes of Interest*, December 1971.

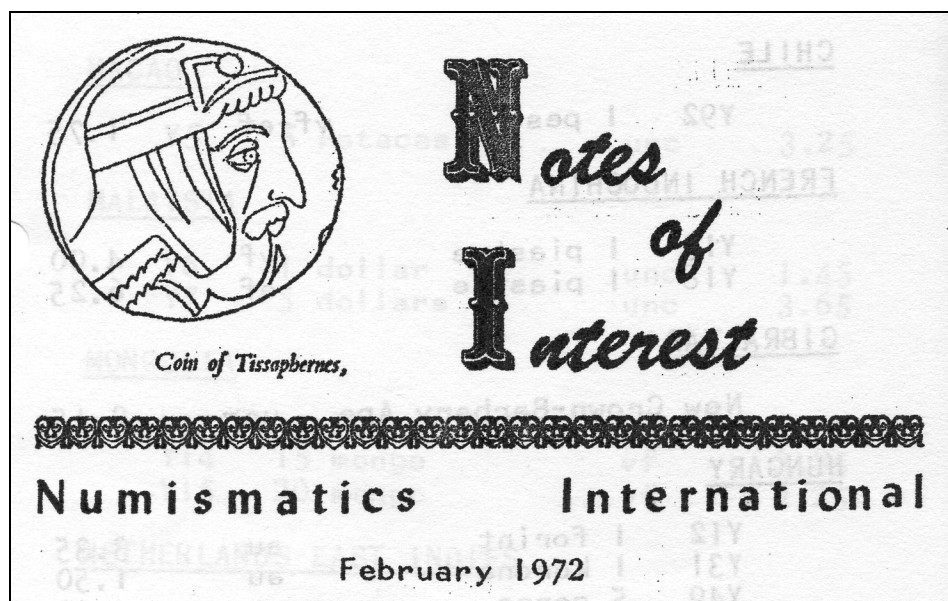
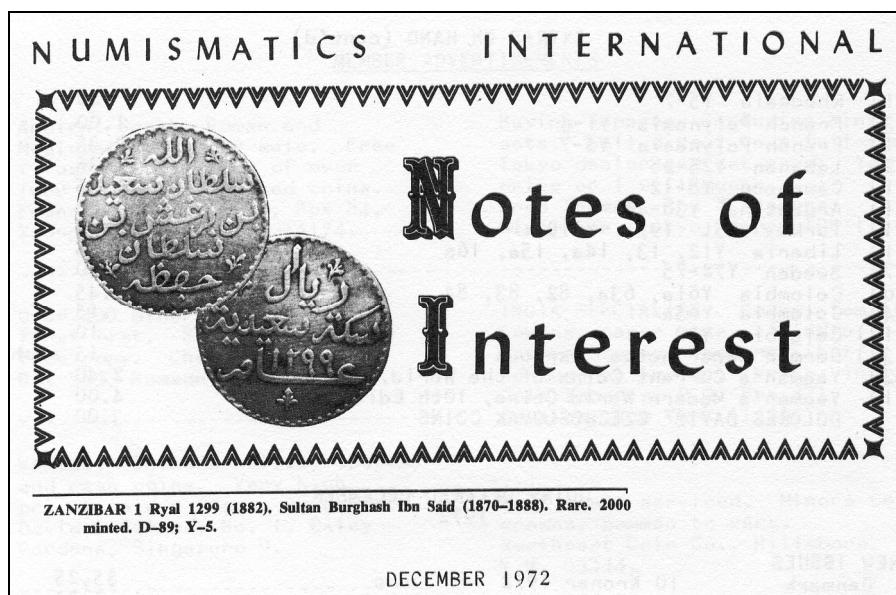
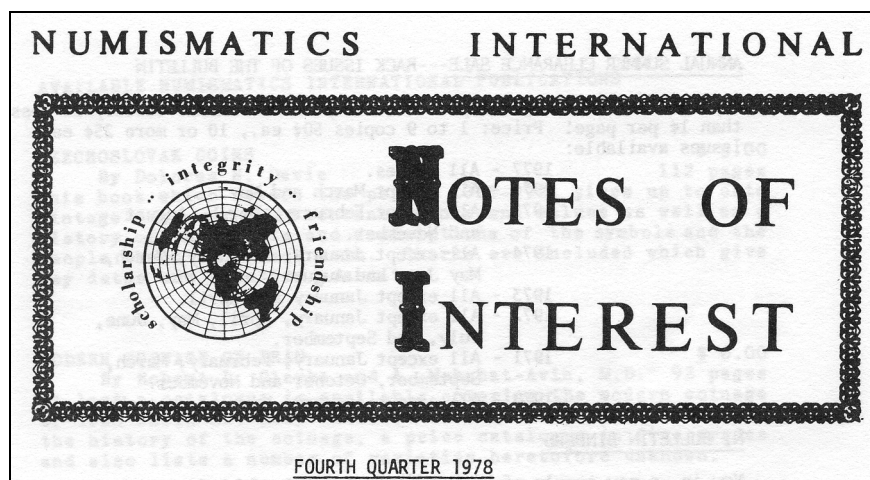


Figure 16: *Notes of Interest*, February 1972.



**Figure 17: *Notes of Interest*, December 1972.**



**Figure 18:**

**The final variety of *Notes of Interest*, June 1976 to 4th Quarter of 1978.**

## **The Founding Members of Numismatics International**

William Edward Benson  
Matt Dowling  
Kary T. (Ed) Edwards  
James L. Ferrell  
Marvin L. Fraley  
Boyd A. Johnson III  
James M. Kelley  
Harrison D. Lawrence  
Jack E. Lewis  
George E. McMillan  
*Edward E. Slade, Jr.\**  
John E. Vandigriff  
Wallace E. Widtman  
Tilden P. Wright  
*Melvin Yonack\**  
Vera Zable

*\* There is doubt as to the status of Mr. Edward E. Slade, Jr. as a Founder Member. His status as such is specifically stated in the July 1967 issue of the NI Bulletin. However, Mr. Slade joined NI as a regular member in its founding year of 1964 and the May 1970 Member List identifies him as member #121, thus making him the twenty-first numbered member to join. He is not identified as a Founder in his obituary presented in the August 1976 issue. In addition, the brief summary of NI's history published in the July 2002 issue omits mention of Mr. Slade as a Founder.*

*The brief history of NI in the July 2002 issue also erroneously lists member Melvin Yonack as a founder when in fact he is member #174, as indicated in the April 1968 issue of the NI Bulletin. This leaves us with only 14 confirmed founders, although all references to the founders in the 1966-1969 issues of the Bulletin refer to fifteen founders, of which fourteen attended the first meeting. Any confirmation as to the identity of the mysterious fifteenth Founder Member is gratefully sought by this author.*

## **Honorary Life Members & Date Awarded**

1. Matthew J. van der Voort, #178, June 1967. Died February 15, 1977.
2. Marvin L. Fraley, Founder Member, January 15, 1969.
3. Jack E. Lewis, Founder Member, December 17, 1969. Died March 11, 2004.
4. John E. Vandigriff, Founder Member, March, 1974.
5. Randolph Zander, July 1980. Died January 21, 2004.
6. Granvyl G. Hulse, Jr., November, 1983.
7. Fred Drost, June, 1984.
8. Col. Charles K. Panish, October, 1987. Died April, 1996.
9. Michael Mitchiner, April, 1989.
10. David H. Block, July 1999. Died October 16, 2002.
11. Ralph A. Cannito, July, 1999.

### **Presidents of Numismatics International**

1. 1964–1965: Marvin L. Fraley, FM, HLM
2. 1966: Jack E. Lewis, FM, HLM
3. 1967: John E. Vandigriff, FM, HLM
4. 1968: Bob Tomlinson
5. 1969: Edward E. Slade, Jr.
6. 1970: William E. Benson
7. 1971: Kary T. (Ed) Edwards
8. 1972: Ross Schraeder
9. 1973: Elmore B. Scott
10. 1974: Irving Berlin
11. 1975 – 1976: Ross Schraeder (2nd term)
12. 1977 – 1978: Carl Young
13. 1979 – 1980: Charles Muchmore, Jr.
14. 1981 – 1982: Jack E. Lewis, FM, HLM (2nd term)
15. 1983 – 1984: Philip L. Lawrence
16. 1985 – 1986: William B. Thompson
17. 1987 – 1988: C. C. “Andy” Andrews
18. 1989 – 1990: Robert W. Richter
19. 1991 – 1992: Dr. Howard L. Ford
20. 1993 – 1994: John E. Vandigriff, FM, HLM (2nd term)
21. 1995 – 1996: Philip Brandenburg
22. 1997 – 1998: Walter Leonard
23. 1999: Glen Shake (resigned December 1999.)
24. December 1999 - 2000: Gordon J. Robinson (remainder of term.)
25. 2001 - 2002: Gordon J. Robinson
26. 2003 - 2004: David Gracey
27. 2005 - 2006: Dr. Howard L. Ford (2nd term)
28. 2007 - 2008: Michael Jones
29. 2009 - 2010: James Terry

### ***Patron of the Library Honorees***

Randolph A. Zander, HLM, July 1978.

Robert L. Clarke, July 1979.

Randolph A. Zander, HLM, July 1980.

### **NI Librarians**

MAR 1969 – SEP 1972: Robert Tomlinson.

OCT 1972 – APR 1976: Carl Young.

MAY 1976 – DEC 2004: Granvyl G. Hulse

JAN 2005 – MAY 2006: James D. Haley

APR 2007 – present: David Gracey

## **Editors of the *NI Bulletin***

Marvin L. Fraley, FM, HLM, *Editor Emeritus*, July 1964–April 2004.

### **Article Editor:**

Jan. 1981–June 1990: Fred Drost

### **Book News and Reviews Editor:**

May 1984–Oct. 1985: George Dunn

Nov. 1985?–Sept. 1990: Raymond J. Hébert

Nov. 1990–Nov. 2000: Donald S. Yarab

Mar. 2001–Sept. 2005: Herman Blanton

John E. Vandigriff, FM, HLM, May 2004–Dec. 2004 (relinquished post Sept. 2005.)

Herman Blanton, Jan. 2005 (assumed post Sept. 2005)–present.

## **NI Library Lists issued**

May, 1971: Printed List.

May?, 1974: Printed List.

May?, 1976: Printed List.

January, 1988: “IBM compatible” floppy disk, only upon request.

December 31, 2002: In Microsoft Excel<sup>®</sup> format, available only upon request.

## ***NI Bulletin* “Article of the Year” Awards & Other Recognitions**

Although the “Article of the Year” award was not officially established until 1983, one exceptional “Author of the Year” award was bestowed prior to that date, in 1976. It is included below since, in this author’s opinion, it rightfully belongs in this list. This award was regrettably abandoned in 1989 and only resurrected by the Board of Governors at the suggestion of Editor Blanton in September 2005, for the year 2006.

**1976 Author of the Year:** Granvyl G. Hulse, Jr., *The Coinage of Modern Ethiopia*, June, 1976.

1977 - 1982: *None awarded.*

**1983 Article of the Year:** Carling F. Gresham, *Don José Toribio Medina, A Man for Any Reason, His Numismatic Works*, November, 1983.

**1984 Article of the Year:** Dr. Kenneth Aring, *A Numismatist on the Trail of Marco Polo*, October, 1984.

**1985 Article of the Year:** I.C.G. Campbell, *An Introduction to Byzantine Coinage*, March - December, 1985.

**1986 Article of the Year:** Dr. Kenneth Aring, *The Venetian Grosso and its Imitations*, April, 1986.

**1987 Articles of the Year:** David H. Block, *Napoleonic Medals: The Egyptian Campaign* [and] *Napoleonic Medals: The Second Italian Campaign*, May & October, 1987.

**1988 Article of the Year:** David H. Block, *Napoleonic Medals: Peace* [and] *Napoleonic Medals: War Again*, June & November, 1988.

1989 - August 2005: None awarded.

**2006 Best Original Feature Article:** Alan K. Luedeking, *The Numismatic Legacy of the Insurrection of Túpac Amaru II*, March, 2006.

**2006 Best Original Short Article:** Kent Ponterio, *The Durango Mint Pattern 8 Reales of 1840*. October, 2006

**2007 Best Original Feature Article, First Place:** Horace P. Flatt, *The Pasco Mint, Initial Period, 1825-1840 and 1836 Eight Reales*, March, 2007.

**2007 Best Original Feature Article, Second Place:** Dr. Eduardo Dargent-Chamot, *Lanuvium, Cradle of Seven Families of Republican Moneyers*, March, 2007.

**2007 Best Original Short Article:** Jorge Restrepo, *Colombian 8 Reales 1770, Santa Fe (de Bogotá) Mint*, *Assayers VJ*, February 2007.

**2007 Special Recognition for Outstanding Research:** Glenn Murray, *King Philip II, the Missing Assayer Mark on his Coins from the Segovia Mint*, September 2007.

**2008 Best Original Feature Article:** Dr. Eduardo Dargent-Chamot, *The Eight Escudo of the Illegal Mint of Lima, 1659-1660*, July/August, 2008.

**2008 Best Original Short Article:** Ignacio Henao, *A Rare Colombian Medal, 'From our Country to its Liberators,'* September/October, 2008.

**2009 Best Original Feature Article – Editor's Choice Award:** Kent Ponterio, *The Coinage of Mexico, Struck During the Reign of Carlos and Johanna*, September/October 2009.

#### **NI Membership Directories issued**

May 17, 1967 (possibly dated May 1).

December 1, 1967.

May 15, 1968

December 18, 1968 (possibly December 1, 1968).

May 1, 1971

May 1, 1973

#### **Printed NI Bulletin Indexes issued**

Yearly: 1972 – 2004.

Cumulative Ten Year Index 1970–1979. By Sydney W. Beaney and Dolores H. Davis.

Cumulative Eleven Year Index 1980–1990. By Dick Schubert.

Cumulative Ten Year Index 1991–2000. By Dick Schubert.



### **NI Individual Annual Dues**

1964 - 1969: \$2.

1970 - 1971: \$3.

1972: \$4.

1973 - 1975: \$5.

1976 - 1978: \$7.

1978 - 1985: \$10.

1986 - June 2002: \$15.

July 2002 - present: \$20.

### **Life Membership Fees**

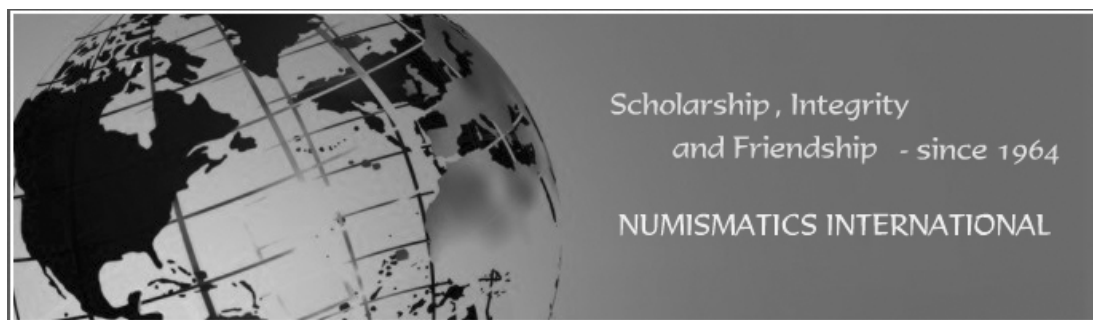
July 1, 1974: \$150.

March 1, 1977: \$200.

2005(?)\*: \$300.

\*At some point in time (thought to be in 2005) the NI Board of Governors increased the Life Membership fee to \$300, however, no one now serving on the Board or any of NI's officers remembers the exact date when this occurred. This data should be able to be found in the minutes of the Board's meetings; however, a preliminary search through these by NI Archivist Ross Schraeder has not turned up the date, and regrettably no formal notice of this increase ever appeared in the NI Bulletin. The first mention in print of the \$300 fee appears in the current fee schedule on the inside front cover of the January 2010 issue, based on instructions issued by the Board of Governors to Editor Blanton in late November 2009.

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# NI Mail Bid Sales

No.	Closing Date	No. of lots*	Total \$ Realized	% of Lots Sold*
1	7/1/1971	225	1,217.59	73.8
2	11/25/1971	153	717.54	62.8
3	4/25/1972	249	953.82	72.7
4	6/25/1972	900	?	?
5	10/25/1972	339 (330)	1,380.04	72.4
6	4/20/1973	220	?	?
7	1/31/1974	385	1,824.13	66.0
8	9/16/1974	104 (102)**	755.50	83.3
9	4/12/1975	400	1,457.79	75.3
10	10/15/1975	158**	702.20	92.4
11	4/30/1976	447	1,642.28	56.6
12	10/20/1976	364	?	?
13	4/20/1977	383	1,098.75***	55.1
14	10/19/1977	320	1,237.60	69.1
15	4/19/1978	405	1,305.50	74.1
16	10/18/1978	329	?	?
17	4/18/1979	213	?	?
18	10/17/1979	338	2,864.08	88.8
19	4/16/1980	230	?	?
20	10/15/1980	295	?	?
21	10/15/1981	307	?	?
22	10/21/1981	483	?	?
23	4/21/1982	550	?	?
24	10/20/1982	550	2,642.60	?
25	4/20/1983	842	4,257.35	93.2
26	10/19/1983	1,043		97.0
27	4/18/1984	1,145		
28	10/17/1984	1,123	5,175.26	
29	4/17/1985	1,368	3,566.00	
30	10/16/1985	1,160		
31	4/16/1986	1,149	3,800.80	
32	10/15/1986	788	3,645.12	
33	4/15/1987	1,045		
34	10/21/1987	877	9,032.72	
35	4/20/1988	750		
36	10/19/1988	805		
37	4/19/1989	806		
38	10/18/1989	1,056		
39	4/18/1990	807		
40	10/17/1990	936		
41	4/17/1991	756		
42	10/16/1991	785		
43	4/15/1992	677		
44	10/21/1992	774		
45	4/21/1993	998		
46	10/20/1993	1,183		

No.	Closing Date	No. of lots*	Total \$ Realized	% of Lots Sold*
47	4/18/1994	1,193		
48	10/15/1994	1,185		
49	4/17/1995	919		
50	10/16/1995	1,182		
51	4/15/1996	707		
52	9/16/1996	842		
53	3/17/1997	1,060		
54	9/15/1997	953		
55	3/16/1998	713		
56	9/14/1998	954		
57	3/15/1999	955		
58	9/13/1999	941		
59	3/13/2000	772		
60	9/18/2000	769		
61	3/12/2001	1,144		
62	10/15/2001	860		
63	4/15/2002	751		
64	9/16/2002	811		
65	3/17/2003	569		
66	9/22/2003	949		
67	3/15/2004	755		
68	9/13/2004	1,143		
69	3/14/2005	993		
70	9/19/2005	824		
71	3/13/2006	880		
72	9/18/2006	716		
73	3/19/2007	768		
74	10/15/2007	1,082		
75	3/17/2008	704		
76	9/15/2008	646		
77	4/13/2009	835		
78	10/19/2009	831		
79	4/19/2010	810		
Totals		58,436		

\*Values in (parentheses) represent the actual number of lots in sale. This value differs from the number of lots in the sale catalogue due to subsequent withdrawals. The percent sold value is always calculated from the number of lots sold divided by the actual number of lots for sale.

\*\*The prices realized lists for these sales do not differentiate actual sales from buybacks.

\*\*\*The total price realized for this sale does not include the prices realized for lot nos. 342 & 345, obliterated by hole punch, as mailed.

*NI*

**Coin Show Calendar**  
**(Major shows with large world coin representation)**  
**Auctions may be scheduled prior to, during or after show dates.**

January 6-9, 2011  
New York International Numismatic Convention  
New York, NY

January 28-30, 2011  
World Money Fair Berlin  
Berlin, Germany

March 17-19, 2011  
American Numismatic Association  
National Money Show  
Sacramento, CA

April 14-17, 2011  
Chicago International Coin Fair  
Rosemont (Chicago), IL

August 16-20, 2011  
American Numismatic Association  
World's Fair of Money  
Rosemont (Chicago), IL

September 6-12, 2011  
Long Beach Coin Expo  
Long Beach, CA

Make sure to confirm dates and venues for yourself.

If you have information for other large shows that the membership may be interested in, send a message to the editor using the contact information on inside front cover.



**Member Notice**

Not the largest stock or the lowest prices, yet some of our customers have ordered over 100 times. Find out why. We're not out to make a fast buck, we work hard to develop long-term relationships with our customers. The joy of a big discount soon disappears if the item arrives over-graded. We handle many inexpensive yet interesting worldwide items. Please specify interests. Give us a try at Ronalea Collectibles, Box 1304, Plumas, MB Canada R0J1P0.